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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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REVIEW AND DIGEST

HAPPENINGS OF A WEEK AS SEEN BY A SOCIALIST.

War As a Means of Propping Up a Tottering System—Free Trade and Protection, and the Advocates of Each—A "Union Man" Lances the S. P., but Falls Into a Trap Himself.

"Look for the woman" is the French adage that directs people desirous to get to the bottom of a private row. The direction is said to have stood the test of time. Equally correct is, in these days, the direction "Look for the railroad," to people desirous of getting to the bottom of an international row. What's at the bottom of this row in the Balkan peninsula? What is it that causes Kaimil Pasha to fall from power, as if by magic, and, as if by equal magic, Riza Bey to get to the top in Turkey?—Look for the railroad.

Hard times, not as hard as at present, but, all the same, distressing, afflicted the people at the time of McKinley's first election. The war with Spain "pulled us out." Artificial respiration works only for a short time. Relapse followed. We are now, have been, for nearly two years, in that state. One war with a weak nation pulled us out once; why may not another war with some other weak nation pull us out again? So, no doubt, the powers that be are reasoning. The war with Spain was brought on by the theft of the Spanish minister's mail, by the dark affair of the blowing up of the Maine, and other such maneouvres. Why not maoeuvre similarly for a war now?—The milk is leaking quite sensible to feeling as to sight out of the cocoa-nut of the "troubles in Central America," with U. S. battle ships hovering along the coasts of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala like carrion-crow over expectant prey.

The Congress that just convened in extra session meets, no doubt, under the flutter and blushes of the old girl Mamselle Free Trade. It meets obedient to a Presidential call to revise the tariff. That is the chance of the old and much jilted girl—at least, unschooled by the experience, the deary believes so. Poor thing! It is as clear now, as it will be when the new tariff will be enacted, that the one-sided, shallow principles of Bastiat, upon which Free Trade feasts, will receive their regulation black-eye. Protection, in principle and practice, will triumph as triumph it must in capitalist society, in a country that raises both raw and manufactured products. Each of these "Interests" craves protection for itself, and free trade against the other. The consequence is obvious—the threat of each to retaliate in case the other blinks at the scrawny Old Girl, will cause both to leave her in the cold—as usual.

The achievements of heels-over-head democracy received striking illustration from the net results of the late conflict in Congress between the "Insurgents" and the "Despots" over the House Rules. Summed up these results are that the Speaker loses no essential power, while he is relieved of certain irksome responsibilities, now thrown upon the House itself, and certain to put the Insurgents together by the ears. The acknowledged parliamentary authority Asher Hinds sums up the summary of the net results thus tersely—"a perpetual Speaker and an ephemeral membership."

If Spencer, he who was Herbert, only lived! When in the flesh his hobby was, Implements of war are the greatest, the real promoters of human good will. The sceptic sneered. The German and the British armaments-furnishing Companies are proving the hobby. Germany decides to have 19 Dreadnoughts which is done through the skillful wire pulling of the Armament Companies of the Empire, accompanied with knowing and suggestive winks to this British dittos. These, encouraged, bring pressure to bear upon their own Government, which thereupon gets ready to go Germany some better, a move that is likewise accompanied by return winks, knowing and suggestive. In short, war implements are promoting brotherly feeling.

Stepping forward in the capacity of special agent of the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, Philip J. Byrne has started an agitation in the interest of "admitting hides into this country duty free." Special Agent Byrne does not seem to know that a large portion of the hides tanned in this country—the Labor hide—is admitted duty free.

J. T. Paul, writing from New Zealand in the London "Socialist Review" on the recent electoral campaign in New Zealand, is of the opinion that "the vote against Socialist candidates was cast partly on personal grounds, partly against Socialist methods, and still more so against their denunciatory and vituperative propaganda." Good for New Zealand. Molasses may catch flies—men never.

Disappointment must have turned unnecessarily pessimistic the "Democratic Senator of national reputation" who is reported to moan: "What have we left now that the Republican party has taken from us the issue of tariff reform and actually landed a large number of Democrats in the Republican fold?—What is now left to the Democratic party? Why the same old ash-barrel towards which ever gravitate all the left-over-frayed remnants of undigested disgruntledism. The ash-barrel never need fear being left empty. As far as rubbish is removed, fresh rubbish comes in. Cheer up, old "Senator of national reputation!"

"La Follette's" of the 13th of the current month advances, through a new writer, Carl Vrooman, the still newer theory that denounces "untried radicalism." Whereupon the tide of history is forthwith rolled back. The American Revolution, having been "untried," was N. G.; the British Revolution, which put a stop to Charles I's. sport of splitting the noses of those who disagreed with him, having been "untried," is likewise N. G. The theory may be brilliant but is startlingly novel. Or is it the same old mossback theory according to which a man should not go into the water until he is an expert swimmer?

The appointment of soldiers to take the place of the striking post office employees in Paris is calculated to have the effect of an eye-opener on Comrade Gustave Herve, whose specific tactics have been to seek to initiate the Social Revolution via the Army.

The New York "Times'" anonymous correspondent "Union Man" choses a bad mask—"Union Man"—behind which to prod the "Christian Socialists." Correctly enough does "Union Man" ask "these Socialists who call themselves Christians" and who "are always yelling about the brotherhood of man, that the black, red and yellow men are their brothers"—correctly enough does "Union Man" stick the knife into these "Christians," together with the so-called Socialist party which they support, by asking them: "Why, then, does the Socialist party of this Nation indorse the programme to restrict Chinese and other Asiatics from coming to the country?" The mistake of "Union Man" lies in the mask he assumes of a Union man, seeing that the pace-setter for the Socialist party's iniquitous anti-brotherhood-of-man posture is—what?—why, the A. F. of L. itself.

Seeing that the Baltimore priest Casper P. Elbert, who is discovered to have spent and lost $130,000 of borrowed money "in backing and promoting various enterprises," cannot be got at, he being "consigned to a sanitarium," a question, that would have been put to him directly, may now properly be put to Cardinal Gibbons, whose name appears on some of the notes. The question is: Where were the profits on the said various enterprises expected to come from if not from the unpaid wages of wage earners, and how does such "backing and promoting" of enterprises, together with the endorsing of notes therefor, square with the teachings of the Nazarene, which the "backer and promoter" and the endorser of his notes affect such zeal in promoting?

Whatever the new tariff bill, just introduced in Congress, will do, one thing it will undoubtedly accomplish—to reduce (on paper) the wealth of deceased lordlings. The new tariff bill provides an inheritance tax of 1 per cent on direct inheritances of $10,000 to $100,000; 2 per cent on $100,000 to $500,000; and 3 per cent on those over $500,000. The appraised size of inheritances will undergo a miraculous shrinkage.

At the St. Patrick banquet in the Brooklyn Academy of Music Father William B. Farrell orated in denunciation of Socialism. Said he: "The fundamental error of this dangerous doctrine is its disrespect for legitimate authority." Father Farrell considers himself legitimate authority.

"With a national union able and willing to discipline its local unions, the leading coal operators assert that they can carry on their business to better advantage with the union than without."—"Charities and the Commons."

On account of which operators in all large industries set on foot, and, with the help of their labor lieutenants, keep up such unionism—to the "better advantage" of themselves.

"Many American cities of 50,000 have congeston of population in tenements, factories and offices, which creates problems for which we cannot find solutions," declares the Committee on Congestion of Population in New York. The trouble with the Committee is that it is like the amiable Sam Weller, who when asked by the court whether his father were present, looked straight at the ceiling and replied "I don't see 'im, Sir!" although his distinguished parent sat only a few benches from him.

Just in time, as the merry-widow hat is becoming *passe*, the estate of the late and much lamented Right Rev. Bishop Henry Codman Potter is appraised, throwing out distinctly the suggestion of a merry-bishop hat as the next *outre* headgear for milliners to catch the popular fancy of the fantastic. A "merry" widow sounds like a contradiction, and the jest thereof was cleverly exploited by the eye-catching prodigiousness of the hat schemed and named after her. A bishop, whose private estate consists of bonds in Gas and Electric Companies, Power Companies, Railways, Telegraph Companies, etc.,—industries the dividends of which are the liquefied blood, bone and marrow of workingmen, workingwomen and children—such a bishop is so Hudibrastic a piece of ecclesiastical furniture that, if milliners know their trade, a hat will speedily be concocted and named after him.

It surely must be with the purpose of proving once and for all time that riches are the reward of industry, managership and ability, and that they can come in no other way, that Hunt Tilford Dickenson, a nine-year-old boy has been left a legacy of $4,000,000 by his deceased Standard Oil uncle W. H. Tilford.

J. A. Chaloner, having been declared incompetent by the courts of New York state, has decided to remain in Virginia, in which state he is adjudged sane, and where he will lead "the life of a country gentleman" on $13,000 per. In the coming Industrial Republic those who would live without work will be adjudged insane in whatever State they may be. Where will they go then?

INVERTED MONASTERIES

The student of history—who reads the Little Land League tract, holding out the prospect of spiritual, mental and physical well being on two acres of land, and issued under the auspices of Bolton Hall, E. R. A. Seligman, Seth Low, Philemon Tecsum Sherman, J. Pierpont Morgan and eighteen other godfathers of the National Organization for the Promotion of Living on and from the Little Land—could hardly help seeing, rising before his mind's eye, as he reads, the picture of society when medieval monasticism sprang up and, indeed, flourished. And, as the picture gathers vividness and stands out in all its fulness—by that time the reader will have reached the end of the tract—then, if he be at all familiar with English literature, upon his memory are sure to force themselves the Shakespearean lines—

How many things by season season'd
are
To their right praise and true perfection!
—and *vice versa*.

The monastery sprang up in the darkness of the Middle Ages. Had it depended upon religious conviction only, there had been few of them, and these few would have been shriveling specimens. Instead, the monasteries cropped up in gigantic numbers; still more gigantic was the number of those who flocked, supported and inhabited them; and mammoth was the wealth and comfort gathered within their precincts. With exceptions that only prove the rule, the monastery was not sought as a living grave but as a living paradise. Such were the economic and social conditions of the times that the large number of those, whose temperament, or other qualities, rendered unfit to cope with the then existing turmoil, fled to the monastery as a place of refuge from the rowdydow without. The monastery was an oasis, surrounded by a mind and body-wracking desert, and insuring spiritual, mental and physical wellbeing. The monastery was a device by season seasoned to its right praise and true perfection.

Times have changed, and we have changed with them. Large production to-day renders the life of the small producer a long and prolonged, usually subdued, at intervals high pitched wail. Man is a gregarious animal—or angel, if that taste better. The torture of the small producer in town or city is somewhat soothed by contact with the crowd. The torture of the small producer on farm is unalleviated; it is accentuated by solitude.

The economic, combined with the psychic causes, turn the two-acre man into a Yahoo. The sketches of New England inner life by the New England writer Mary Wilkins Freeman afford many a stray peep into the home of the two acre family.

Unable to compete with the larger farmer; subject, without appeal, to what may be termed the *corvee* imposed upon him by what may be styled the modern feudality of the Transportation Companies;—thus strapped and then whaled, the two-acre family sinks to that economic depth where an extreme of agriculture has begun to meet an extreme of industry. Monumental is the economic fact, brought out by city factory inspectors on the war path against the sweating system, that as fast as it is driven from the city, the sweating system enters as a skeleton into the closets of the rural districts.

Nor is that all. As already indicated, with the small agriculturalist the measure of misery ends not with economic trials. It is surfilled with psychic woe—a psychic woe the depth of which marks the length of the road the race has traveled since its pastoral days, when solitude uplifted by promoting contemplation. Equally monumental is the psychic fact that there is more insanity to the square inch on the two acre field than in the congested city.

The two acre expedient is the old monastery inverted. It is a barren exile's island that insures physical, mental and spiritual atrophy. Economic and social conditions, together with the atmosphere they create, season the expedient unseasonable, to its just condemnation and utter imperfection.

FLIGHT was the slogan in season during the Middle Ages; the slogan in season to-day is AGGRESSION.

CHICAGO SOCIALISTS

HOLD CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF COMMUNARDS.

Program Includes Speeches, Songs and Music, with Gillhaus the Main Orator—Christian Rudowitz Attends—Is Staunch Supporter of Party and Refuses to Be Bribed to Leave.

Chicago, March 17.—The Socialist Labor Party here celebrated the event of the Paris Commune of 1871, at Workman's Hall, last Sunday. There was an excellent program of speeches, recitations, songs and music. August Gillhaus, national organizer of the party, made the address of the occasion. He spoke upon the rise and the fall of the Commune, and warned his audience to have no faith in any other social class except its own, the working class. Gillhaus, in closing his speech, made an earnest appeal to those assembled to seriously study the literature of the Socialist Labor party.

Other speakers followed Gillhaus, speaking in several languages. Mrs. Oscar Neebe gave an excellent recitation in German. It was on the Paris Commune.

A feature of the occasion was the presence of Christian Rudowitz who just escaped the Russian Czar's clutches as a political refugee. Rudowitz is and has been practically a member of the Socialist Labor party, he being a member of the Lettish Federation of the S. L. P. Rudowitz was warmly greeted by those present.

A fact not generally known about Rudowitz is that the Socialist party tried to buy him over, as it were. They knew him to belong to the Socialist Labor party and promised him if he would leave the organization and join the S. P., they would gather enough money to bring his family here from Russia. But Rudowitz, through an interpreter, told his interviewers that had he wanted to become a traitor to his class and the cause he is fighting for he would have turned traitor in Russia. He refused to become a turncoat and remains loyal to the S. L. P.

I asked Rudowitz how he came to choose the Socialist Labor party as the one with which to cast his lot. He told me that he investigated the policies of both the S. P. and the S. L. P. and he found the latter correct, and considered the former a counterfeit.

Section Chicago will take in hand arrangements to help Rudowitz to bring his family to this country.

D. R.

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REAP THE WHIRLWIND.

Jersey Building Trades Pay Price for Keeping Men Divided.

Jersey City, N. J., March 19.—The building trades crafts of this city are now reaping what they sowed a few years ago. When times were "good," Italian and Jewish mechanics, who applied for membership in the various craft unions had slim chance if any of being admitted. As there was lots of work these union-made "scabs" found employment. Then came the hard times when any kind of job is hard to get.

The scale for carpenters is supposed to be four dollars a day, but the needs of the men, who were kept out of the union, has fixed the standard at from one-sixty to two dollars a day. The union men are working for what they can get, and there is hardly one that knows what another gets. One thing is sure, few, if any, are getting the scale.

If you talk with some who are walking the streets they will tell you that they are doing it to uphold wages, but the fact is they can't find jobs. Union meetings are being held to try and boost wages and revive the spirit of unionism. The trade schools are denounced as the source of cheap labor.

There was a strike recently on a big Catholic school, which had some novel features. The plumbing was being done by a leading plumbing firm, who run an open shop. On the job at the same time were union steampipe fitters, union painters, and union carpenters. For three weeks the union men worked with the non-union plumbers without a murmur. Then the plumber foreman was asked when he expected to get through. He didn't know.

The union men were called off the job. non-union plumbers remained at work and when they had finished the union men went back and did their work; the "scab" atmosphere having been cleared in some way. Some work is now being done on the rectory and union carpenters are working with the very "scabs" against whom they had struck.

The "top hat" men, the bricklayers, did not join in the strike against the plumbers. The aristocrats of the building trades are "independent," which means that while they have no grievance, no grievance exists. Their scale is supposed to be $5.70, but the knowing ones say that they don't balk at $3 when nothing better is offered.

The contractors may not be doing as much work as before, but they should be making more money, as they can get labor at pretty near what they choose to offer. Out in Newark the unions are holding meetings, trying to revive the organizations and enforce the scale. Conditions, partly of their own making, are against them.

Jerseyman.

Every new reader for the party press is a possible recruit for the movement. Do some recruiting work by pushing the Weekly People.

S. L. P. OF MICHIGAN

Holds Mass Convention and Makes Nomination.

Detroit, Mich., March 6.—A mass convention of the Socialist Labor Party in Michigan was held in Hinz's Hall, 75 Gratiot avenue, on March 4. The following ticket was nominated for the coming spring elections:

Justices of Supreme Court:
Henry Ulbricht, Archie McInnes.

Regent's of the University:
Hermann Richter, William Hoag.

Superintendent of Public Instruction:
Frederick Hitchcock.

State Board of Agriculture:
Thomas Grabuski, Shephard B. Cowles,
John A. Ingram, Albert B. Latta,
John H. Latta.

The National Platform was re-indorsed, and the State Committee was instructed to take all necessary steps to have the ticket properly filed and carry on such propaganda as time and means permit.

The election takes place on April 5. The conventions for county, city and ward tickets have already taken place and a full ticket is placed before the voters.

The State Convention made it evident that the working class cannot be humbugged all the time. There were delegations present from the Polish and Hungarian organizations which have lately organized upon the principles of the Socialist Labor Party.

H. R.

U. S. EMPLOYES MUST NOT TELL.

No Matter How Much Imposed Upon, Dare Not Speak.

Washington, March 20.—Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, and other welfare workers of the Civic Federation, met with 100 girls of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving at the Public Library last evening. They learned that, though the meanest of conditions were forced upon the government employes, these dared not complain.

The New York ladies were shown the department where plate painters work.

At the best this is a nasty, messy work, and the pay is small. In a short time the clothing of the girls is soaked with the oils and inks and they must work in that condition for eight hours. It is the hardest and most unpleasant labor performed for the Government in Washington. The women also complain that the conditions under which they work are not as hygienic as they should be. The workrooms are warm, the air bad and close. There are not sufficient lockers or retiring rooms.

The girls have been afraid to speak of their condition because it is contrary to the regulations for Government employes to organize and make complaint. When it became known that Mrs. Taft, at her own request, had been appointed on a committee to learn the conditions they mustered up courage to come to this meeting, but they did not have anything to say.

W. F. M. IN DEAL.

Labor Members of Colorado Legislature Must Pass Peabody War Debt to Get $65,000 for Miners' Organization.

Denver, March 14.—The reported deal between the Western Federation of Miners and the representatives of the Mine Owners' Association whereby the bills to refund to the federation about $65,000 in claims arising from loss of property during the Cripple Creek and Victor riots and to pass the war debt fund amounting to about $950,000, is not being pulled off smoothly.

Yesterday C. E. Mahoney, vice-president of the Federation, was taken to task by one of the House leaders for the refusal of some of the labor members on the House Committee on Finance to report favorably the Peabody war debt bill.

"Straighten out those labor fellows on that committee," was the command passed to the Federation official, and it was given with a significance that unless they report the big bill favorably there is no hope for the several bills to pay back the Federation the amount of its claims.

The way to build Socialists is through the party press. Send in one reader for the Weekly People.

CAPITAL AND LABOR

OR LION AND LAMB LIE DOWN TOGETHER.

Railroad Workmen and Companies Jointly Seek Legislation to Maintain Freight Rates—Denver Paper Admits Purpose Is to Protect Earnings of Corporations.

Denver, March 14.—Who said that the workman and the master, the slave and the slave-driver are not loving brothers? Let those who hold such language turn their eyes toward this State and witness employe and employer joining in mutual embrace and marching to the legislature of the land for laws beneficial to both.

A number of railroad workmen have been induced to join in a legislative fight which the railroad companies are involved in. The companies want their present freight rates maintained, and, as an aid in this direction, and just to show that the poverty-stricken magnates need the money, Brother Labor will be ushered in to offer his humble testimony. Therefore, for the time being Brother Labor and Brother Capital will slumber peacefully. What the big fellow Moneybags will do after he has attained his object—well, that'll be found out later.

The "Denver Post" to-day is all praise for the pooling of the "interests" of the men and the companies. While usually giving the workers the worst of a write-up when they are on strike, it now has the following to say:

"It will probably be but a short time until Denver and all cities in Colorado and the West will witness the organization of branches of the American Railway Employes and Investors' Association, the new society formed in Chicago a few months ago to advance the interests of the toilers of the rail, protect the railroads from adverse legislation and an abnormal public sentiment against railway corporations and work for a mutuality of interest and a closer bond of relationship between employer and employe.

"It is a magnificent army of defense, led by one of the most successful labor leaders of recent history and including in its membership not only the heads of the great railway brotherhoods, but the presidents and general managers and the directors of every great railroad system in the country.

"Representatives will work in congress to secure legislation beneficial to the men and companies alike and will do the same in the States.

"The association will combat the reduction of freight and passenger rates and all such restrictive measures as will effect the earnings of the companies. It will endeavor to secure for the railroad investor a fair share of profit on his investment. Politics is absolutely barred from the organization.

"A better balanced association could hardly be imagined and there is no way for either the employes or the railroads to secure advantage over the other. On the one side, as members of the executive board, there are Warren S. Stone, of the engineers; W. S. Carter, and John J. Hannahan, of the firemen; A. B. Garretson, of the conductors, and P. H. Morrissey, of the trainmen, while the secretary of the association, C. D. Kellogg, used to be the editor of the Railway Conductor, the official organ of the Order of Railway Conductors.

"On the other side are such great railway men as Early, Ripley, Winchell, Yoakum, Scott and others to look after the roads and the investors.

"The national headquarters are in room 233 Railway Exchange Building, Chicago, and the president is P. H. Morrissey, for years grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. Secretary Kellog is a writer of national repute on labor topics.

"It is a significant tribute to the railway labor organizations to have both the president and secretary selected from their ranks."

OVER THIRTY MINERS KILLED IN EXPLOSION.

Evansville, Ind., March 20.—Nearly all of the thirty-seven miners at work in the galleries of the Sunnyside Coal Mines in this city are believed to have been killed by an explosion this afternoon. Only two conscious survivors have been taken out.

SLUM TACTICS

WILLIAM HAYWOOD DRAGGING HIS ANCHOR.

By Olive M. Johnson.

Fruitvale, Cal., March 15.—The question of the tendency towards slum tactics in the Revolutionary Movement, raised by Comrade Reinstein in a recent New York speech, is one of such vast importance at this time that it should not be allowed to rest. The current drifting slumward in the American Movement is a strong one, and it cannot be too energetically opposed.

Last Sunday evening I had the opportunity of hearing at a public meeting Wm. D. Haywood, the erstwhile secretary of the Western Federation of Miners, and the once central figure in the trial for the murder of ex-Governer Steunenberg. His speech should have caused no comment, for it was but a sample of the usual semi-sentimental, bombastic S. P. agitation talk. But it furnished such an excellent text for a lesson in "Slum Tactics" that it is only fair that this lesson should be drawn.

In commenting upon the inability of Taft to solve the question, What is a man to do who is out of work and has no money? and proceeding to solve that question himself, Haywood said:

"In that case there are only three things for you to do—BEG, BORROW, or STEAL. But a proud man will not beg. An honest man will not borrow, as he knows he has to pay back. But there is one thing you must not do, that is to starve yourselves, for starving is to commit suicide, and suicide is against the law. Therefore there remains but one thing for a proud and honest man to do, namely, TO STEAL. The Bible tells that Christ advised his apostles, when hungry, to eat of the fruits of the field, but carry none away. It was a California Judge who once refused to sentence a man for stealing a loaf of bread. If a mule walks down the street and spies a green cabbage on a vegetable wagon it goes to it and eats it. Have you less sense than a mule? The workers need the luxuries that exist. They make them and they have a right to take them. The factories of this country must run, and they shall run if we have to go to work with a dinner bucket in one hand and a shot gun in the other."

Without producing further quotations let me examine this masterful array of "Revolutionary Tactics," and see where they lead to.

I have often heard people—proud, independent people—make the remark that, reduced to extremity, they would rather steal than beg. That I have always looked upon as an expression of the utter contempt in which a respectable workingman holds charity, private or public. As such it illustrates an innate virtue and perhaps also a certain latent adventurous spirit. He means to say that, while theft or robbery is a foul thing, indeed, yet its practitioners at least run the risk of punishment for their crime, a crime for which capitalism in the last analysis, is, in reality, responsible; but that, to a man ready, able, and willing to work, there can be nothing more degrading than to humbly ask for the crumbs that fall from Dives' table. However, at the best, the expression has always made me smile. The proud exclaimer never seems to calculate that between him, in the bosom of his family and in the strength of his manhood, and that second self to which the alternative of BEG or STEAL would present itself, a long series of protracted misery and gradual reduction of mental and physical resistance intervenes; that want, starvation, and long knocking from pillar to post has humbled many a spirit as proud as his own. But one thing certain is that he, to whom the alternative presents itself, stands on the brink of the slums, when he tumbles in for lack of further resistance there is no telling where he will land, and it appears to me that, once among society's offscouring it would not much matter. Reduced to the alternative, there is but one thing for a proud strong, decent man to do, namely, to struggle to the bitter end against that one last fatal step.

I have brought this up only because I wished to do away with that objection at once, as many readers would be sure to make it, and the rest of the argument would be lost upon them. But there is no connection otherwise between this exclamation of private sentiment and the utterances of advice made by a would-be revolutionary agitator on the public platform. In the latter case it is held out as revolutionary tactics. It is just therein that the danger lies.

That there is a relation between hard times and crime, there can be no question. During the hard period following the earthquake and again during the past hard winter, a perfect wave of midnight robberies and housebreaking swept over the cities about the San Francisco Bay. Not only was it a menace to property, but to life as well.

It never should be forgotten that murder is the next kin to theft. The streets are dangerous and the homes are not safe. This condition certainly is not pleasant. There is nothing in it to glory over. It is gruesome. It is not "revolutionary," it is simply and detestably criminal. However, there is one fact worth rejoicing over. A little study of the criminal calendar will soon convince one that it is not the industrial proletariat, even in the times of a crisis, that contribute the inmates of the prisons. It is the real slums on the one hand, and the upper, middle and professional classes on the other. It is the people who have always lived without work and by the exploitation of others that will continue that exploitation by hook and by crook, even if the path leads to the gallows. Because of this fact, borne out by criminal statistics, we proletarians can feel a pride and glory. It proves that the industrial proletariat, in spite of all reverses, is the only honest, decent, moral civilized class in society today. The Socialist, of all persons, should be the one to point with pride to this condition, as it proves beyond dispute that the industrial proletariat is the only class in existence fit to run an honest, decent, moral, civilized society.

But we all are forced to admit that morally there is a tendency slumward in the revolutinary movement. This is to a great extent a result of the deplorable fact that in this country the actually industrial proletariat is not the backbone of the Socialist Party movement. The unions are pure and simple conservative unions, not revolutionary unions. The controlling factors of what is generally understood as the entire revolutionary movement are on the one hand middle class and professional adventurers, who exploit Socialism for a livelihood, or for glory in lieu of a better game, and, on the other hand, of a floating, crushed proletariat, whose existence is one of protracted misery and continually hovers on the brink of the slums. Both these classes are sources of danger to the movement, for each in their status ever lend a willing ear to the preaching of the tactics that will furnish a revolutionary pretext for their existence on the back of the movement, or at the expense of their fellow men.

In the Haywood trial there came to light, through Richardson's cross-examination of Orchard, doings which probably were the direct result of the glorification of theft as revolutionary or union tactics by the officers of the W. F. M. Richardson made Orchard admit that he, Adams et al., during the time of the Colorado strike and in times of distress, foraged for chickens, sheep and other small "prey." At such a time of capitalist lawlessness an honest man could scarcely be blamed for doing that much, not as a "right" but as a NECESSITY. But Richardson further brought out that during the time when Orchard and his gang were in Denver a perfect "Carnival of Crime" of hold-ups and robberies swept the city. The man who has once come to look upon his union card as a license to commit theft to preserve life has but one step to take from the stealing of sheep to the stealing of other necessaries and LUXURIES. Then again, once started on the road, there is but a short step from the sneak-thief to the masked highwayman and house-breaker, and then,—again to "preserve life" in a dilemma—may he not easily become a real thug and red-handed murderer? After having scaled this ladder, and with bombastic revolutionary phraseology running through his brain, is there any wonder if the man becomes a political assassin for private vengeance, and as a crowning act in his career of crime, hidden under revolutionary pretexts, tries to lay the blame for his act on the organization and its leaders, who preached the doctrine of crime and extolled it as a revolutionary virtue?

I do not mean to say that Haywood and others intended anything like such a consequence; but this IS the consequence, and in this manner the Haywood "revolutionary morality" leads directly to the Orchard tactics.

Let us proceed with the Haywood text. Even to-day it would scarcely be considered much of a crime on a tour in the country if one should, from a loaded fruit tree, eat what one needed but carried none away. But we should bear in mind that the starving masses in our modern cities are not thrown in contact with the products of nature in the field. To help themselves in stores and kitchens is quite a different proposition. This would make them either sneak-thieves, robbers, or housebreakers, and even with a great deal of stretching and much "interpreting" it cannot be said that Christ's precepts advised that. It is only in few cases that it is safe for Socialists to quote moral and ethical precepts from past ages.

One of the basic principles of Socialism is that the morals and ethics of a people are the outgrowth of the economic conditions that surround them. And the condition that surrounds the involuntarily idle workers of to-day is certainly quite different from that which surrounded the slaves and other proletarians in old Romanized Canaan during the first century of our era.

It is true that as Socialists we censure the judge that will sentence a man who takes a loaf of bread to satisfy his hunger. But that is not done to make a hero of the man who did the act, but to demonstrate the nastiness of a society that forces a man, able and willing to produce his livelihood, to commit a degrading act and then to make a criminal of him for doing so. It is one thing to extol crime to the position of virtue; it is quite another to show up the vileness of a society where such a crime can ever come upon the calendar.

To make a comparison between man and donkey morality is a piece of very common "stump-oratorical" stupidity that can none too soon be, for ever and ever more, eliminated from the vocabulary of the Socialist agitator, as a piece of nasty demagogism unworthy of his dignity. There is no comparison between a man and a donkey in the case in question. The man is a being endowed with reason, the donkey is the type of the animal that is devoid of reason. When a man is reduced to theft he is morally degraded. He does what he knows and feels to be a shameful, nasty act. When a donkey spies a green cabbage and goes for it, he probably thinks not at all about it but simply goes ahead and satisfies his brute instinct. But if any thought should at the moment enter his asinine skull it would naturally be a beastly, beautiful thought about fresh green cabbage put just there for an ass's benefit. There would be nothing degrading to asininity in that. If we could imagine any poetry in assdom, there indeed would it be. The ass certainly could no more be accused of theft than could man in a state of nature when he satisfied his needs from the fruits of the forests. But if a man who refuses to steal is more stupid than a donkey, if the working class in general is more stupid than donkeys, what use then is there to talk about working class emancipation and self-government? Indeed, this sort of talk is worse than poor Socialism, it is real capitalist doctrine. The capitalist class likes nothing better than to make the workers believe that they are next kin to the ass. The capitalists continually tell us that they have all the brains while the workers have none, and give it as the reason why they should be left in control, while the workers should never try to meddle in the governmental affairs, nor in the running of industry. But we Socialists know that the collective working class possesses the combined intelligence of all ages and all classes. Thereupon we base the hope, yea, the certainty, that the workers will be able to accomplish their emancipation. It is the Socialist's duty to teach the workers to scorn the bestiality that would degrade them individually, and instead, to teach them that grand class-consciousness whereby they can lift themselves, their whole class, and entire humanity into the Socialist Republic.

To take the "luxuries" that the workers have produced because they "need" them is quite a different thing from the revolutionary act whereby the workers would "take and hold the means whereby they can produce for themselves all the necessities and luxuries of life." As a revolutionist, I am far from awed by the "Goddess of Private Property." There is to me in all history nothing more craven than the awe with which a few sentimental middle class people at the Paris Commune of 1871 bent before that Goddess. But they were engaged in a Revolution, and the property before which they bowed with respect was just that which they needed in order to conquer. In such matter the Revolution makes its own code of ethics and sweeps all aside that stands in its way. Those who are not alive to this fact are not Revolutionists. The future Socialist Revolution will abolish all private property in the means of production. But while the Revolution will make its own ethics, the revolutionists have no revolutionary right to make them from semi-revolutionary precepts and then practice them in a pre-revolutionary period. That is as bad as to take our ethics from donkeydom or to jerk them out of precepts that are 2,000 years old.

The declaration that "the factories must run and shall run if we have to go to work with a dinner bucket in one hand and a shot-gun in the other," is another sample of bombastic phraseology devoid of sound reasoning. If we concede the right of the capitalist to own the factory he certainly has the right to shut it down if he sees fit. How is a gun to keep the factory open, and how is it going to compel the capitalist to hire the workers and pay them wages? But such an utterance applauded to the echo in a would-be Socialist audience illustrates how far the tactics of riot and slummery have taken hold. It is catering to the brute in man, to the thug element, the lawless class, the slums in society, the very people that never can usher in the Socialist Republic.

The Revolutionary Movement truly is a law-abiding movement. It follows the grandest and highest law in the world, namely, the law of progress. The Socialist Movement therefore should be composed of the very best elements in society. The Socialist should, and the genuine Socialist does, strive above all things to remain a decent, moral and law-abiding citizen. It is the slum on the top and the dregs below that are the real riotous elements in society.

The Socialist, of course, knows that things are wrong and that the working class is submitted to outrages and indignities. Therefore, he is arrayed against society. But not as an individual who takes every opportunity to butt his head against the hard stone walls that society has raised. As a sensible man who knows the injustice and vileness of society he avoids, as much as possible, to get hit. But he combines with his fellow-workers to overthrow capitalism, which would make of him an ass, a beggar, a thief and an all-around beast and criminal. He dedicates his life-energy to upbuilding of the economic and political organizations that will be able to accomplish the establishment of a just and sane society, the Socialist Republic.

PROTEST AGAINST "VORWAERTS."

Strike Sympathizers Pack Theatre and Denounce So-called Socialist Paper.

A mass meeting packed the Thalia Theatre, N. Y., Sunday afternoon, March 21, and protested 1,000 strong in favor of the three locked-out writers on the East Side Jewish Socialist party paper, "Vorwaerts." Besides the admission, a good collection was taken up.

Among the speakers were Antin, Zametkin, Winchevsky, Milch, M. Katz, and Kornbluth. The "Vorwaerts" and its A. F. of L. backers in the Hebrew Trades were roundly lashed.

One speaker declared that the Hebrew Trades had decided the strike to be a contest between capital and labor, and then decided in favor of capital. Winchevsky said that the "Vorwaerts" was the most indecent paper he knew, and that when Roosevelt attacked the Socialists in the "Outlook," he must have had such literature in mind.

Zametkin paid the Socialist Labor Party the tribute of stating that while the old "Abendblatt," controlled by the S. L. P., was alive, it was always clean and true to the movement.

When the question was put to the audience, What is Max Pine (the secretary of the United Hebrew Trades)? the audience with one voice cried "A scab!" Pine is now working on the "Vorwaerts."

Abe Resine, whom the "Vorwaerts" had imported from Russia since the strike, declared to the audience that upon finding what sort of a position the "Vorwaerts" was in he had severed connection with it, and would return to Russia.

Unless the strike is soon settled by arbitration, it was stated Sunday, a call would be issued to boycott the "Vorwaerts."

TRY TO DO SOMETHING.

Many of our readers have by this time received a letter which we addressed to them requesting their active support for the Weekly People. Some of those addressed have already answered our request. Comrade Peter Faber of Kent, O., sends a new yearly subscription and one dollar for the Operating Fund. He says that he hopes that all other readers will try and do something. So do we.

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GILLHAUS IN SPEECH

POINTS OUT EVER WIDENING GULF BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LABOR.

National Organizer of the Socialist Labor Party Addresses Milwaukee Audience—Makes Pointed Remarks on Immigration and Scores Socialist Party—Takes Fall Out of the A. F. of L.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 14.—August Gillhaus, national organizer for the Socialist Labor Party, addressed an audience last night in Bohemian Turn Hall, on the subject: "The Class Struggle." Gillhaus delivered an instructive lecture and scored a number of good points.

"The concentration of capital and the development of industry is widening the gap between capital and labor," began the speaker. "Things have come to such a pass that practically sixty individuals control this country."

Gillhaus showed how the various manufacturing and railroad corporations are linked together by the directors holding office in many different companies. Thus the Rockefeller interests are found extending out into many other profitable enterprises besides oil. The extension of this system is bound to encroach upon the middle class and wipe out its holdings, and thereby send that class into the ranks of workingmen.

The speaker pointed out that the iron ore of the Himalayas was coveted by the U. S. Steel Trust. The steel corporation was now erecting mills in Asia for the purpose of exploiting these resources. The international character and the interests of capital thus become evident. The working class must also learn internationality of interests.

At this point Gillhaus launched into a discussion of immigration. He said that Labor had nothing to fear from "foreigners," or "backward races." The proper thing to do was for the whole working class to unite against the capitalist class. Labor should not split itself up into warring branches.

The Socialist party was trounced for dividing workingmen upon the "issue" of immigration. "It is through the raising of such 'issues' that the Socialist party admirably performs the nefarious work of the capitalists to their utmost satisfaction. This party is simply a lightning rod to run the revolutionary spirit of the workers into the ground," remarked the lecturer.

"The American Federation of Labor has a favorite slogan: 'A fair day's pay for a fair day's work.' What is a fair day's work? An employer would like to squeeze 36 hours' work into 24 hours if he could. That would represent a fair day's work to 'Brother Capital.'"

Gillhaus urged the formation of industrial unions instead of craft unions. Industrial unions were the only possible organizations that could achieve anything for Labor, because they would tie up the entire industry, instead of allowing each department to fight alone. "But the industrial union means more than simply an effort to secure a little now. That union will lead the workers to economic freedom. This is what must be the objective point of the world's workers."

Gillhaus was asked what the outlook was for the Socialist Labor Party. He said that the party had the whole future before it and that he felt great encouragement for its success.

A. S.

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COAL CO.'S PREPARE FOR STRIKE.

Philadelphia, March 19.—No word has yet come from the anthracite coal mining companies as to the annual reduction of 50 cents a ton in the domestic sizes of coal, which for some years had been going into effect on April 1.

Dealers and consumers are waiting for an announcement, but none is expected until after the convention of miners at Scranton next week has acted on the proposition to renew the present working agreement.

Every colliery in the hard coal fields is working full time and will continue to do so up to the end of the month.

Rumors that the companies will shut down for an indefinite period pending a settlement of the wages and hours question cannot be officially confirmed, but reports from the coal regions tend to support such rumors.

The miners look for a shut down during April.

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SPEEDING UP IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY

I—PRESSURE FROM ABOVE, AND STIMULATED RIVALRY—MEN DRIVEN TO CREATE "RECORDS," AND THEN COMPELLED TO KEEP UP TO THEM.

The tendency of present day conditions seems to be in the direction of increasing the intensity of physical exertion in the mills. This has been the trend for twenty-five years past. The output of rolls and of furnaces has doubled or trebled in that time,—a matter of record which can easily be verified. A hoop mill in Pittsburg in 1892 produced 450 bundles of cotton ties in eight hours, on a single train of rolls. In 1908, a train of rolls in the same mill was producing 1,300 bundles in eleven hours,—an increase of over 100 per cent. per hour. A blooming-mill in one of the Pittsburg plants that was rolling 300 to 400 tons in twelve hours, fifteen years ago, is rolling now 900 to 1,200 tons in the same time. Twenty years ago the Edgar Thomson steel works were turning out 600 tons of rails in twenty-four hours and the plant was considered one of the best in the world. At present, mill No. 1 in this plant has a capacity of 100 tons an hour and an average of 2,000 tons in twenty-four.

A great deal of this increase in output is due to improved machinery, but not all. In the hoop-mills there has been no great mechanical improvement during the period in which the output has trebled. In sheet mills, where tonnage has increased a hundred per cent., there has not been a single important change in machinery or method in the last twenty years. But not even in the mills where inventions have revolutionized the process can all the increased speed of production be traced to the machinery. The importance placed on human exertion is evident in the constant efforts of the steel companies to "speed up" their workmen. The very terminology of the steel mill communities bears witness to it, where the overseer of a gang of laborers is colloquially known as the "pusher." The men higher up have the more dignified titles of foreman and superintendent, but their function is not different excepting as their fields of administration are broader and more difficult. They must get out the product.

This constant pressure of men in authority who urge on and drive the men below them is what I call the direct stimulus. A tonnage system of wages governs very largely in the steel industry but I do not mention this piece-rate system of payments as a direct stimulus, because that, in itself, has never been strong enough to produce the results secured by other methods. In contrast to this direct, active pressure, are indirect stimuli which have even greater influence than the direct in boosting the output. One of these is a skillful use of the spirit of emulation. It was used years ago in the infancy of the business. When a mill broke a record the men who accomplished the feat were praised, their names sometimes published in the trade journals, while superintendents of other mills taunted their men with the disgrace of being beaten. This would rouse all the skilled men to greater activity and another mill would establish a new record. For years a piece of steel plate, cut to the shape of a huge broom, was kept suspended above the Edgar Thomson blast furnaces at Braddock as a symbol that all competitors had been swept aside, and that these furnaces were producing more pig iron a day than any others in the world. This made a strong appeal to the men and they were constantly on edge to retain that record.

In the same way, the Bessemer converter men in one of the steel mills near Pittsburg were constantly induced to break their former records. They kept raising the pace until finally, when it had reached a very high point, the superintendent told them that having demonstrated their ability to produce that much steel it would thereafter be expected of them. Consequently the system is well established to-day. Superintendent is pitted against superintendent, foreman against foreman, mill against mill. When a record is broken it means simply that the goal to be struggled for has been set ahead. In the mills of the Carnegie Steel Company two months in each year, usually March and October, are known as "record months," and are sacred to the breaking of records. The mills are pushed to the limit; every possible advantage is given in the way of perfect equipment, and all known obstacles are removed beforehand. Some departments are run straight through the month without an hour's stop, and all are run overtime. If records are broken, the superintendent passes the cigars. The new record has an effect, for what is done in March and October is of course possible in April and November.

In all the speeding up, it is readily to be seen that superintendents and foremen are the major factors. The forces that move them to action are the source of compulsion behind all the increased physical effort that has been noted. Of course emulation is a factor with foremen and superintendents as well as with workmen. Competition for positions is sufficient to keep them alert, for if one superintendent does not make good some other can. These are the negative forces, however; the positive are gifts, extra favors and, most important of all, the bonus system of the United States Steel Corporation.—John Fitch Andrews, in Charities and the Commons, March 6.

Woman Under

- Socialism -

By August Bebel

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL GERMAN OF THE THIRTY-THIRD EDITION BY DANIEL DE LEON.

The Woman Question is not a question by itself; it is a part of the great social problem. Proceeding along this line, Bebel's work is an exhaustive analysis of the economic position of woman in the past and present. Despite the boasts of Capitalist Christianity the facts show that under Capitalism woman, especially of the working class, is degraded and dwarfed physically and mentally, while the word home is but a mockery. From such condition of parenthood the child is stunted before its birth, and the miasmas, bred from woman's economic slavery, rise so high that even the gilded houses of the capitalist class are polluted. Under Socialism, woman having economic freedom equal with man, will develop mentally and physically, and the mentally and physically stunted and dwarfed children of the capitalist system will give way to a new race. The blow that breaks the chains of economic slavery from the workingman will free woman also.

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WHY BE FOOLISH?

The Story of Young Man's First Job in New York City.

I had been slowly getting rid of the night, on a bench in Washington Square. Toward dawn I had fallen asleep. I awoke now and stood up and stretched to throw off the stiffness. Then I sat down and began the old business of sizing things up. I had been a month in the city and still I had no job. The first light of day was making the Arch, the trees, the buildings, the pavement, all grey and cold; the spray from the foutnain was hazy and blue,—and cold. Around me some sixty men lay asleep. A few still tried to look decent; one grey headed man had tucked a handkerchif over his collar to keep it clean for to-morrow's job hunt. But most were in hopeless rags. A group of city failures,—bums. I had no job.

This was about what dad had foretold. It had been mighty hard on dad. He was one of the millions of men who struck out for the West and the prairies, and since then by hard work have made good; and now they see their children, one by one, leave home and go back to the cities. It was hard, but it had to be. He wanted to be a farmer; I wanted to be a physician. He chose the place where the chances were best, and I did the same. But he couldn't see it, and things grew strained between us two; and so, when at last I could hold back no longer, I took no money from him, only the forty odd dollars I had earned as a clerk in the village drug store. And here I was. A month of hunting for work, no job, and all but nine dollars gone. I had given up my room to make the money last longer.

A young foreigner sat up on the bench next to mine, and stretched and yawned, and then smiled at the fountain as though he liked it. He was slight and wiry, with a dark narrow face and eyes that went with the smile. When he turned and saw me, his smile broadened. So did mine.

"No job?" he asked, with a strong foreign accent. I shook my head. Just then the round jovial sun cocked one eye over the roofs in the East.

"Well," he said, "fine day!"

"Yes," I said, "fine day." He turned toward the Arch.

"You go this way?"

"Yes." I went with him up Fifth avenue, which at this hour was empty for miles ahead. A few blocks north, we found a man beginning to paste a huge poster up on a bulletin board. All at once my companion stopped.

"Ha! Kubelik!" I looked at the poster, but it meant nothing to me. "Kubelik!" he repeated. "Fine—from my country—fine!" His dark face lit up, his eyes sparkled, and he stood there watching proudly, muttering fast in Bohemian. "Now," he said at last, "to-day I get my job!" And as we walked on, he talked so hard, he was so proud of his countryman and so sure of his job, that I too caught the spirit. We celebrated our splendid luck by a hearty breakfast at thirty cents each. I tried to pay for both, but he refused.

"No," he said gayly, "I have still two dollar forty-two cent. An' to-day I get my job!" We parted, soon after. I heard him humming a marching song as he walked off down the street. I have never seen him since.

I missed my job that day and the next. But on the third day I found it at last on the upper East Side, in a snug little drug store. I wrote my first letter home that night.

The druggist was a comfortable little old man, somewhat bent, with long soft white hair and frank reassuring blue eyes.

The narrow crowded store was like him. From the one show window, from every nook and cranny on the walls, and even from strings in the air, your eye was met by smiling signs which assured you of comfort, relief and miraculous cure. Few patients came here with prescriptions, for this was a tenement quarter. The druggist was doctor too. And as he stood at his counter, with row on row of patent medicine bottles rising behind him, questioning patients in his soothing old voice and then prescribing one of the bottles with placid absolute faith that in a few hours all would be well, he made a perfect picture of benignity and wisdom.

My weekly pay was five dollars and twenty-five cents.

"The extra quarter," he said, "is just to—" he waved his hand. "I hate close bargains," he ended. He also gave me constant smiles and kindly advice. He seemed amazed at my skill, and assured me that I would rise fast and very high. He showed me how simple the science really was, in spite of the pompous doctors. One by one he made me acquainted with his various patent miracles. "My pets," he called them. Some I had known in the village drug store, but most were new,—nerve tonics, powerful stimulants, narcotics. I was an ignoramus those days; but even then I could vaguely feel that this amiable little boss of mine was a wizard dealing out fire.

I worked for him eight months. I went out more and more, in off hours, to see big sights of the city. I read a few medical books, but more newspapers. I cut my hours of sleep down to six. When this re-acted on my nerves, the old druggist suggested a bottle. But this I refused.

Meanwhile, watching our patients, certain faces grew familiar; faces thin and hollow and flushed, with eyes unnaturally bright. "The cough with blood," was what they called their trouble.

To meet it, the benign old druggist gave them a certain bottle that held forth amazing promises; and he told them, with that gentle absolute faith of his, that all these promises were true. I watched these people come again to buy more bottles, and still look eagerly at the quiet reassuring old face,—and again take hope.

I traced fourteen of these neighborhood cases that year. Eleven died.

This I told to the druggist one night. Very quietly the old man looked up.

"Do you wish to go on with your work?" he asked.

As I rose slowly, staring at him, he added with a smile, "If not, you may go."

I still stood there staring. He rose, his smile grown doubly kind, and laid his hand on my shoulder.

"Why be foolish, son? You are so young. You know so little. You call this medicine bad. Will you prescribe another? Why be foolish?"

It ended in my leaving.

I took a long tramp that night, thinking on the lesson, the lesson taught by the town of tens of thousands of us country cubs. In the next five weeks it sank in deep.

The fall had come again, and the city was filled with job seekers. Often I stood in line in the dark, at 4 a. m., waiting. And in hours like these, which are not sane hours, the old druggist's face used to rise up as I had seen it last. And he seemed to stand for the whole cold sparkling city, holding out the lesson of Graft to the raw recruit—and smiling and asking—"Why be foolish?"—La Follette's Magazine.

Puddlers Refuse to Stand for Cut.

Reading, Penn., March 16.—Following an all-day conference of the National officers of the Amalgamated Iron, Steel, and Tin Workers' Association and representatives of the locals of the eastern district of the United States east of Pittsburg, for the purpose of discussing the wages of the puddlers and finishers, it was decided not to accept a reduction as proposed by the iron manufacturers. While no definite action was taken in the proposed reduction, it was the unanimous decision of the representatives not to accept the contemplated cut. The question was given into the hands of the Executive Committee of the district, which will convene at the call of Vice President Mencher of the eastern district.

* * *

Maryland Steel Wage Sliced.

Baltimore, March 16.—A general reduction in wages at Sparrow's Point, amounting to 10 per cent., and affecting all divisions of the works of the Maryland Steel Company, will be put into effect on April 1, according to a high official of the company to-day.

The order to reduce wages, the official said, was in line with a general policy of retrenchment, considered necessary until after the adjustment of the tariff question allows the resumption of normal business in all industrial lines. Approximately 1,200 workmen will be affected. In normal times upward of 4,000 men are exploited by the company.

* * *

Another Anti-Hatworker Injunction.

Orange, N. J., March 19.—F. Berg & Co., hat manufacturers of this city, today obtained an order to show cause why the union hatters should not be restrained from picketing the streets about the factory operated by the concern in the Orange Valley district as well as the railroad stations in this vicinity. The order, which is returnable on Tuesdaty, is directed to the national body of the union hatters and all the officers of the various locals in this city.

* * *

Penna. Steel Cuts Wages.

Harrisburg, March 16.—The Pennsylvania Steel Company, one of the largest of the inedependent steel companies in the country, has announced a reduction in wages approximating 10 per cent., effective April 1.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

COMPETITION IS PROGRESS?

A MIDDLE CLASSER DRAGGED OUT OF HIS SHELL AND EXPOSED.

Do you ever hear of the fellow who always knows more about your business than you do yourself, that is he is convinced he does? He is always giving you his advice. There is such a one who writes to a New York daily and makes a plea for the restoration of competition among railroads. E. C. Laird is the individual's name. Unfortunately, he does not tell what particular calling he follows. If he did, it would be possible to expose just why he desires competition in full swing.

A guess at Laird's business pursuit, however, may be ventured, and that is: he is a shipper who is hit by the railroad companies' agreements to maintain rates.

Laird does reveal the commercial pursuit of a fellow tradesman, a Mr. Gibbs, of the Gibbs Preserving Company of Baltimore. This Gibbs spoke before the Canners' Convention at Louisville and advocated the "principles of competition," that is, so far as railways are concerned. He said naught with regard to the "principle" in his particular line of preserves. Laird, writing on the question, has this to say in the "Journal of Commerce":

To the Editor—In writing one of our Congressmen on January 30, 1909, urging his support of the Fulton bill enlarging the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, I deprecated the absence of competition among the railways in the matter of making freight rates as being an unwholesome condition, subversive of progress, and gave expression to the following views:

"Competition is the electricity that pushes forward the wheels of progress. It was ordained in the beginning and must continue to the end. Wherever it has been temporarily eliminated, there is invariably found an artificial and unnatural condition that places a severe check on the progress and development of the individual man. Competition causes striving and progressive effort and this makes for the development of the individual.

"The principles underlying the trust, Socialism and government ownership do not appeal to me. The trust is advocated by the covetous; Socialism by the laggard; and government ownership by the man whose intentions are good."

Competition is the spur that is urging forward the human—in the school, in the newspaper office, in the mine, on the farm, in the factory, and it is a great influence even in the church. Many a lazy man, influenced by his regard for the good opinion of his fellow-men and the mortification that would overtake him if he should allow his competitors to far outstrip him in the race, has been forced by competition to make a supreme effort and has accomplished, under that strain, much in the development of himself and for the advancement of humanity.

Competition among railroads, no doubt, looks good to a Mr. Laird, who would see in it a chance to secure lower rates. If, however, Laird owned a corner grocery, and a Butler store or an Acme store came along with its "cut prices," what a different screw he would give to his visage, and descant on the tribulations of a small store-keeper getting along with a fierce "competition" "spurring" him on.

Probably Laird would not mind the Acme store,—probably. In such case he would jump into the "race" and give his competitor a run for his money. He would reduce prices accordingly. But how long would he last? He'd make excellent progress "down and out."

Take the case from a workingman's standpoint. Isn't it the height of irony to tell the millions of unemployed that what they need is "competition?" Where shall they compete when their labor is not needed? What about those at work? Shall they offer themselves at less than they now receive, and strive to do a bigger day's work than they now are doing? Such competition is certainly good for the Lairds. But how about the wage-earners, where is their "come-back?"

Competition is good for the middle class, the men of small property. Competition is the Bryan hobby, the Democratic Party's lament. Monopoly is death for that class.

The formula reduces itself to this: For the Middle Class, Competition among big fellows—good; Monopoly, bad. But for the Working Class, both Monopoly and Competition: bad.

The workers must march forward with their own particular demands, and these are abolition of private ownership in the means of life, and the rearing of the Socialist, or Industrial Republic. The Socialist Labor Party is the organization which stands for this program.

A VALUABLE DOCUMENT.

To comrades who keep a file of the documents issued by the Party we would announce that a few spare copies of the S. L. P. Report to the International Socialist Congress, Stuttgart, neatly printed and bound, may be had for 25 cents each.

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Eugene Sue wrote a romance which seems to have disappeared in a curious fashion, called "Les Mysteres du Peuple." It is the story of a Gallic family through the ages, told in successive episodes, and, so far as we have been able to read it, is fully as interesting as "The Wandering Jew" or "The Mysteries of Paris." The French edition is pretty hard to find, and only parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the communes for freedom is now translated by Mr. Daniel De Leon, under the title, "The Pilgrim's Shell" (New York Labor News Co.). We trust the success of his effort may be such as to lead him to translate the rest of the romance. It will be the first time the feat has been done in English.—N. Y. Sun.

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Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets first and third Sunday of the month at 3 p. m. at Headquarters, 1366 Ontario street, near St. Clair avenue.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters, 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton ave., Jersey City; Fred. Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly st., Jersey City, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois. — The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, s.-e. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P. headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

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He who comes in contact with workingmen reading any of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions. Sample copies will be sent upon request. Address each paper as per address given above, and not as often the case to the Labor News.

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Frederick W. Ball, National Treasurer.

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Owing to the limitations of this office, correspondents are requested to keep a copy of their articles, and not to expect them to be returned. Consequently, no stamps should be sent for return.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1904	34,172
In 1908	14,237

Subscription Rates: One year, $1.00; six months, 50c.; three months, 25c.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1909.

Servitude seizes on few, but many seize on her.

—SENECA.

THE TARIFF BILL.

The new tariff bill, which it took the clerk of the House over five hours to read on the 19th, and upon which the debate was opened upon the 22d, is a document the purpose of which does not concern the working class. The document affects taxation—an issue that interests Labor as little as the color of the coffin can interest the man who is to be killed and buried therein. Low, or high, or no tariff on iron, or leather, or cotton seed oil, or works of art more than twenty years old are issues that do not affect the law under which wages are regulated in capitalist society. Whatever the tariff be, the share Labor receives of its own product is determined by the supply thereof in the Labor-market. Tariff or no tariff, Labor's share is and remains a declining one—with no prospect of improvement but through the movement to overthrow the Capitalist System. Looked at from this viewpoint, the tariff bill has no place on the tapis of Labor issues.

But there is another angle of vision in the matter. The tariff bill affords several insights into the mechanism of capitalist thought. In this respect the tariff bill deserves some attention by Labor. One of these insights is luminous on the essence of capitalism.

The charge against capitalism and proof that it compels its own overthrow is that it concentrates wealth instead of diffusing it. Capitalism realizes that the charge is a strong one, hence much of the time of its apologists is spent in the attempt to prove the charge false, and that, on the contrary, capitalism is an arch defender of well-being. The tariff bill is eloquent on the truth herein. It contains an inheritance tax provision. According to the provision inheritances are divided into two main categories—one category for inheritances in the direct or hereditary line of succession; another category for inheritances that are collateral. Were the law of capitalist existence one that tends to diffusion it obviously would promote the latter, as tending to diffusion, and discourage the former, as tending to the perpetuation of concentration. The inheritance tax provisions propose just the opposite—they propose a tax five times as heavy for collaterall inheritances as for direct inheritances up to $100,000; a tax more than twice as heavy for collateral inheritances up to $500,000; and a tax almost twice as heavy for collateral inheritances of more than $500,000. In other words, true to the spirit of capitalism the capitalist inheritance tax mulcts inheritances that tend to diffuse wealth, and treats kindly inheritances that tend to continue and promote concentration.

Concentration is the law of capitalism. Obedient to this law it needs must move. Deny as it may the fact on this head, capitalism blurts it out unconsciously through the vocal organs of its self-protective laws.

THE ITALIAN ELECTIONS.

What remains to be settled by the few supplementary ballotings yet to be had in Italy will not affect the main results of the elections. The main results are three in number. These stand out clear. Two of them are cause for joy.

The first of the three main results is that the ministry triumphs. This circumstance deserves first mention only because of its general character. The threatening political weather in the Balkans has received from the Italian electorate a response that rather makes for progress. The triumph of the full Socialist program would have been ideal. That, of course, was out of the question. The next best thing has been attained with regard to the Eastern situation. The attitude of the ministry favored the breath of freedom that has gone up from the Balkans. Its anti-Austrian policy triumphed.

The second result, and what with an eye to the future is of prime interest, is the solid gains made by the Socialists. A larger vote and an increased number of seats is cause for applause. So solid are these gains that the European press hears now the tramp of approaching Socialist supremacy in Italy, and acknowledges that the tramp is distinct.

The significance of this second result is considerbaly heightened by the third—the pitiful showing made by the forces of darkest reaction, the Clericalists.

In 1870 the political center, distinctly known as the Vatican, issued through its head, the Pope, a decree known as *non-expedit*. The decree commanded all faithful Catholics to abstain from the ballot. The decree was originally intended as a demonstration against the Italian Government. With time the decree served the purposes of a threat. Under the threat that the *non-expedit* might at any time be revoked, and the Government submerged under an avalanche of hostile votes, the Vatican sought to wring concessions from the Government. Especially did the Vatican hold out its supposed power as a potential weapon against the Socialists, and in protection of the Government. The paltry electorate—about 8 per cent of the number supposedly entitled to vote—lent a color to the claim. The claim collapsed at the recent elections. The *non-expedit* was this year revoked in a number of districts. The result, beginning with Rome, was marked Socialist and Radical gains, with the Clericalists cutting a pitiful figure. The figures throw unexpected light upon the reason for the smallness of the electorate, and exposes the Vatican of a profound political blunder.

The election laws of Italy demand, besides a property qualification, a certain degree of elementary education. The Italian voter must be able to read and write, and also possess certain general information. A property qualification cuts, no doubt, into the Socialist ranks; an educational qualification not at all. On the contrary, Socialism enlightens. The increased Socialist and Radical vote, accompanied with a Clericalist vote that is trifling, proves that ignorance is the quarry of the latter—hence it is stripped of the potential power that it had hitherto mystified the public into giving it credit for.

Looked at from this angle of vision the recent elections in Italy greatly clarify the situation there. They prove the number of Italians who can be duped into mistaking policies for religion, and obey the dictates of a political machine in the fatuous notion that they are obeying a divine behest, is small, and that of that smallness the bulk is so primitively uneducated that it has no vote, hence does not count.

WHO ARE THE TEASPOONERS?

The late Walter A. Wyckoff, the so-called "tramp professor" of Princeton, used to tell the following story:

"'Isn't it a shame, George, to shovel dirt that way?' asked one of two workmen watching a steam shovel in action.

"'How so?' said George.

"'Why, that machine is taking the bread out of the mouths of 500 men that would be required to do the same work with hand shovels.'

"George laughed. 'Go on!' he said; 'you don't reason right. Look here—if this steam digging would give work to 500 men with shovels, why not get 5,000 men with teaspoons for the job?'"

George was right. Yet to-day, who are the teaspooners?

It is not the revolutionary-enlightened workmen;—they least of all. They know that economical and copious production is the keystone of the arch of plenty which they hope to rear over the future society. They know that good will and brother-love are but wisps of beautiful dream-pictures, without that abundant productivity which implies the most improved manner of machinery. Hence a social revolutionist can never be a teaspooner.

There remain but two other sets of persons who can fall into that class, and in both cases their outlook is based upon hopelessness. One is the non-revolutionary workingman; the other is the capitalist. Both of these may, and occasionally do, become advocates of teaspoon methods in industry.

First, the non-revolutionary workingman. His horizon is bounded by capitalism. Like the world-engirdling snake of Asgard, capitalism ever was, and ever will be. As John Mitchell, presuming to talk for the coal mine workers said, "he has given up all hope of ever being anything else but a wage-earner." No thought of a better system sheds its guiding ray upon him; he seeks but to ease his chains under the present one. To such an one, the mission of advanced machinery, namely to release the race from the sordid grubbing for an existence, is a sealed book. His mind closed to that fact, he can see in the improved tool only a competitor, a menace to his job. Hence he swears by the teaspoon, and passes resolutions in his craft union against the steam-shovel.

But far more vicious and harmful to society than the occasionally teaspooning workingman is the constantly teaspooning capitalist. To him also, capitalism is as it was in the beginning and evermore shall be. Whereas with the non-revolutionary workingman it was ignorance alone, here it is both ignorance and self-interest combined which shut out the conception of a superior social system, and render the outlook for better things hopeless. Make hay while the sun shines, becomes the capitalist motto. Prices must be kept up, therefore vast agricultural areas are left untilled, and factory production curtailed. Trust plants must run at a profit, therefore competitors are bought and closed down. New machinery means a dead loss on the old equipment, therefore patents are locked in the safe and never utilized. Hosts of men and women must be employed to boost and run one's own business, and to outwit competitors, therefore they are withdrawn from productive activity. With all due credit for the mechanical advances it has made, capitalism still stands as the world's monumental squanderer of men and forces. The capitalist is the main teaspooner.

History has it that some hundred years ago, when the steam loom began to displace the hand loom, the starving weavers of Britain and Scotland vented their despair on the new looms, smashing them to bits. But that did not destroy steam weaving. No more than the spirit of mechanical progress did then suffer itself to be retarded for the temporary advantage of labor, will it now allow itself to be throttled for the temporary advantage of capital. Mechanical development of production will brook no halt. Teaspoons and teaspoonism lie directly in the path of civilization's broom; and the capitalist is the chief teaspooner.

SELF-THROTTLING DENIAL.

However obviously false the mask of "Union Man," adopted by the "Times" correspondent who justly satirized the Christian Socialists for hitching up with the so-called Socialist party, whose human brotherhood is illustrated by efforts to restrict the Chinese and other Asiatics from coming to the country;—however obviously that mask, seeing that, in the loose and common parlance of the day, by union man generally is understood the A. F. of L., an organization that is tuned to the self-same key of anti-immigration;—however transparent the fraud of the mask, the arrow its wearer shot into the S. P. sped its way unerringly home, assisted in its course not a little, we modestly opine, by the paragraph bestowed upon it in these columns a few days ago. How unerringly the shot went home may be judged from the heedless attempt made by "The Call" to deny the facts in the case.

In its issue of March 18 "The Call" declares that "no such action [as claimed by "Union Man" and confirmed by the Daily People] was ever taken by the party, and a proposition to that effect was rejected by the last national convention."

Before us is the official report of the proceedings of the last national convention of the Socialist party. A fishy resolution on immigration was introduced, especially vicious against orientals (p. 105). Then followed the debate. What the spirit and purpose of the resolution was soon transpired from the utterances of its supporters—especially candid with regard to Asiatic immigration. In the course of the debate spoke delegate Berlyn of Chicago. The substance of the speeches made by these speakers (pp. 107-122), folks who were A.-F.-of-Lically hot in the collar against "the people who come from China and Japan," may be gathered from a few of the passages addressed to them by Berlyn. He said:

"You don't know why the fleet of battleships has been sent to the Pacific. You forget all about that. You forget that both Democrats and Republicans are united on Japanese and Oriental exclusion, and you want us to blow the little whistle and say, 'Me too,' . . . . if we permit ourselves to go to work and tack amendments to the proposition of 'Workingmen of all countries, unite'—if you tack amendments to that, then tack a clause to the name of the Socialist party, the words, 'A d—n lie'" (p. 114).

The resolution was adopted—and thereby the Berlyn amendment tacked *ex officio* to the name of the Socialist party.

Nor was this action of the last national convention of the S. P., together with the speeches backing the action, in the nature of the one swallow that does not make a summer. It was the third of a series of similar betrayals of one of the most sensitive interests of the International Proletarian Movement.

At the Amsterdam International Congress, 1904, the S. P. delegates, Hillquit, Lee and Schlueter, signed and introduced a "backward races" anti-immigration resolution, which was ignominiously hooted out of the Congress—the hooting led by the Socialist Labor Party.

At the following Stuttgart Congress, 1907, the S. P. delegates re-introduced the identical resolution, only mystified in the sauce of a different verbiage. In support of the resolution Hillquit expressly singled out "the Chinese and the Japanese, the yellow race, in general," as the races, above all others, to be excluded (Rep. of Int'l. Congr. of Stuttgart, p. 237); and, immediately after, suddenly discovering a Japanese delegate right there, accredited to the Congress, and sitting behind him, he dropped the word "Japanese," but stuck to the word "Chinese" in his wild anti-immigration ranting (ibid., p. 238). Again the Congress put its heavy foot heavily upon the iniquity. The Japanese delegate castigated it with merited sarcasm (ibid. p. 245); the bulk of the delegates, including Hammer of the S. L. P., tore it to pieces, and the French delegate Uhry summed up its essence in the short sentence: "It flies in the face of the fundamental principle of Socialism" (ibid. p. 234).

Whoever "Union Man" may be, his unerring arrow evidently quivers below the rhinoceros hide of the S. P., galling "The Call" with pain into a heedless denial. But then, when the sting of Truth inflicts a pain that is intense, "the tongue knoweth not what it sayeth, and strangleth the wriggling sinner."

LOLA THEN, AND LOLAS NOW.

The Paris, France, "Temps" publishes a never before published letter written by Lola Montez, the celebrated courtesan of mysterious origin, who, after playing a unique role in Paris, captivated the King of Bavaria, lived with him, and finally was driven out of Munich by a popular uprising, whereupon she fled to America, and died here in obscurity.

Although Lola's letter, which is addressed fro mMunich to a male friend, Pierangelo Tiorentino, is dated December 5, 1846, it is of choice interest to-day. She writes:

"You surely have heard of my good luck. What has actually happened I always dreamed. I left Paris in the month of June, dear Tiorentino, in the capacity of 'traveling lady companion,' and to-day I am on the eve of receiving the title of Duchess. I have a beautiful estate, horses, servants, in short, everything that the recognized mistress of a King can desire. The prominent ladies beset me with tokens of esteem, I go everywhere, all Munique dances attendance in my ante-chamber—Ministers, Generals, court ladies. I hardly recognize in myself the Lola Montez of former days. The King loves me passionately; he has endowed me with an income of 50,000 francs for life, and has spent more than 300,000 francs on my estate, etc., etc. I can do anything I please here. The King displays his great love for me in public. He promenades with me, he goes about with me. Every week I hold a great soiree, attended by Ministers, etc. The King always comes on these occasions and overwhelms me with evidences of love. I know, dear Tiorentino, that you always meant me well, and that this news will please you. It is therefore that I write to you. Although surrounded with all manner of honor and pomp, and filled with the most ambitious hopes, still do I often dream of and think back to Paris. Dear Paris! True happiness does not, after all lie in grandeur. There are too many of the envious around, too many intriguers. You are compelled ever to play the great lady, and ever to weigh the words you hear. Oh, my happy life in Paris! But my mind is made up. I have been raised as if by magic. The King entertains for me a truly passionate love. Never before did he have a sweetheart. My character has pleased him. He is a man of extraordinary talent; he is a true genius, and one of the most elegant of living poets in Europe. My slightest caprice he considers his duty, and all Munique looks on amazed. People don't know what to say. He loves me so ardently that all persons whom I take to immediately find favor."

Let titles be changed and the appropriate names inserted—and who doubts that, in these days of "appendicitis" and other such false allegations as the cause of mysterious deaths in the circles of the-sanctity-of-the-family-upholding Plutocracy, just such letters are being written by just such Lola Montezes, at this very time?

Orange Carpenters to Get Wage Cut.

Orange, N. J., March 19.—It is said the master carpenters will notify the union in a day or two that reduction in the prevailing scale of wages will go into effect with the expiration of the agreement now in force on May 1. The bosses assert the lack of building operations in that vicinity has made the past season one of the worst in the history of the trade, and will try to use this as a pretext for cutting the wages of those who do work.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

THE HOUSE RULES

To the tune of "Down with Cannonism!" a word that is being used as synonymous with "despotism," a conflict has raged for over a year in the Federal House of Representatives, between the "Insurgents" against the "Regulars." On the 15th of the current month, a head-on collision took place between the two forces. The result seems to have been a "telescoping."

What does all this rumpus mean? It means a good deal, well worth a little scrutiny.

All the facts alleged with regard to and against the old rules were true. The old rules, so-called, they are comparatively new, placed in the hands of the Speaker the power to say what bills should be considered, what bills should be pigeon-holed, the amount of consideration each should receive, and which should pass and how and when. In short, the old rules placed legislation under the control of the Speaker. Was this despotism? It was that—if the essence of despotism is lost sight of. Inversely, the agitation of the "Insurgents" was an agitation for democracy—if the essence of a democratic purpose is of no consequence in the name.

We brand and justly brand the Czar's regime despotic. The despotism does not lie in the cruelty exercised, or in the autocratic method of its exercise. The despotism lies in that the Czar's autocracy is unnecessary, superannuated and, therefore, a harmful regime that retards Russian progress. It is a fact, one that sits crosswise in the craw of the liberal ranter, that Freedom is strained, not through the loins of Chaos, but through those of Order, and that Order is the slowly developed offspring of Despotism. Chaos begets Despotism; Despotism Order; Order Freedom. The line dividing each may not always be sharply marked.

Before determining whether a certain thing is despotic or not we must ascertain whether it retards progress, or is a waiting-stage for order to take shape. A great aid in arriving at the right conclusion will ever be furnished in the principles of those in arms against "despqtism" and proclaiming "democracy."

The old rules were the only rules applicable to the exigencies of our capitalist parliament. Our Political State has reached the point when it demonstrates its own absurdity. The law of its existence makes it a law-grinding machine. The larger, the more powerful the Political State grows all the more laws does it need. A time arrives when it is a matter of physical impossibility to satisfy the machine's voracity for laws. Then the crisis is reached, with the alternative—either to yield to the Juggernaut's craving, which would choke him to death, and bring about an immediate breakdown; or, from the premises that the Juggernaut must be saved, to put him on short rations, under diet, so to speak. This was the alternative our Political State reached, about twenty years ago, when, under Speaker Reed, the now "old rules" were introduced. The cause of the crisis continuing, the alternative continued also: the "old rules" were further elaborated.

The "Insurgents," with their cry of "democracy," do not represent Progress; neither do the "Regulars" represent Reaction, or Despotism. The former are a reversal to the ancestral type in the state of Chaos, the feature of which is blindness to the relation that exists between a goal and the means to reach it; the latter are a manifestation that ever recurs in the interstices between one social stage and the next higher—a manifestation that superficial observation mistakes for Reaction, and that unquestionably bears some semblance to Despotism—a manifestation, nevertheless, that is pre-eminently a hand-maid to Progress, and which, carefully observed, is Conservatism, the policy that, consciously or unconsciously matters not, "marks time" as the then only policy of safety.

It is no accident that the backbone and body of the "Insurgents" is furnished by the Democratic party, an aggregation that neither learns nor forgets, and is, consequently, fatuously devoted to the trimming of the mustachios of the Capitalist Tiger. It is likewise no accident that, on the other hand, the incarnation of the "Regulars," Speaker Cannon, has for his device the principle that "Congress should meet, and adjourn, and do as little as possible." Finally, it is no accident that the long prepared battle for the overthrow of the "old rules," despite all the *furore* of liberal declamation, resulted in a substantial victory for the old—a victory that further time will confirm and improve.

The "old rules" implies the existence of the Political or present Capitalist State. So long as that exists the "old rules" will remain in force—conservatively preserving the Order in parliament that Social Evolution requires, until the Socialist or Industrial State is ripe to take and hold, when the multiplicity of laws, bred of conflict and needed by the Political State, will be cast off along with the Political State itself.

THE POISONED HOUSE

A New York City Tenement Which Is a Feeder to the White Plague.

Down on the East Side of New York stands a poisoned tenement. It was built twenty-seven years ago. So dark are its hallways that, on a mid-summer noon, the stranger must grope his way. Strong of stomach need he be to go far in that foul air. There are seventy rooms in the house. Fifty-six of them have no access to the outer air. Some of the fifty-six open on an "air-shaft" three feet wide, twenty-seven feet long and originally seventy feet deep. Two feet may be subtracted from the depth for the accumulated filth at the bottom of the shaft. These rooms are little more than windowless boxes inside. The tenement is called "home" by nearly one hundred and fifty people. They pay the owner a profit of 25 per cent on his investment for the privilege of becoming consumptives.

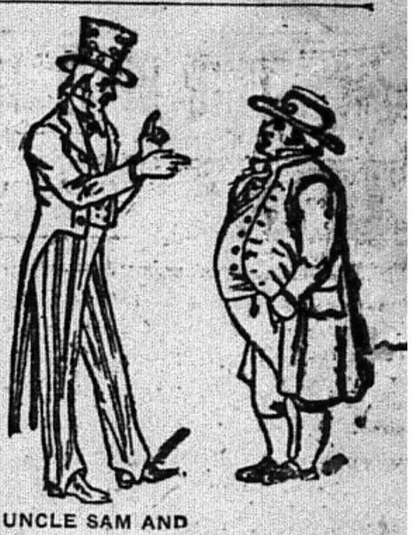
They died fast in this tenement. The second floor middle apartment (the middle ones are the worst) has had five families of tenants in the last four years. Of the first family, three members moved, one died. Of the second, two out of seven were carried out to the morgue. The third family stayed only six months, because the death of the father sent the rest to charity. None of the fourth family died in the tenement, but two out of six went to the hospital, one of whom is since dead. The fifth family are now living, eight strong, in these rooms. At least one of them and probably two have begun to succumb to the poison.

On the third floor is an apartment which has a record of six funerals in five years, all consumptives. On the fourth and fifth floors are apartments with records of three deaths each in that period. In the entire building is but one apartment which has contributed in recent years its quota to the white plague—the ground floor front, occupied for six years by a fresh-air-loving, cleanly German couple. They reduce the average, but not enough to bring it below eight times the normal death rate from tuberculosis for the entire city. And it is worthy of note that the owner of this barrack joined the general movement of tenement owners last spring and raised his rentals.

In southern Indiana, on the outskirts of a small city, stands a haunted house. It was built in 1830. One of the children of the original occupants became consumptive. The family moved away in 1846, taking the patient with them and the family of Mr. C. moved in. The C's were from western New York, a strong, sturdy stock, hardly knowing what sickness was. Slowly, very slowly—for the tuberculosis specter is a patient wraith—they died, two sons, two daughters, father and mother. One son escaped alive, but hopeless. It took thirty-three years to wipe out that family. In 1880 the N's moved into the house. There was no previous record of serious illness in their annals, but it would seem that they were softer grained than their predecessors, for in seven years the spirit of the house had claimed seven of them, leaving four survivors, of whom two are already marked for death. The house is now vacant—the neighbors say it is unlucky.

If the poisonous East Side tenement and the disease-haunted Indiana house were rare exceptions they would be of little importance. They are not exceptions; they are types. The tenement is one of many hundreds in New York City alone; it has its twin brothers in Boston and Pittsburg, and its cousins of varying degrees in Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and even in the lesser cities, such as Albany, Hartford and Yonkers. The country house has its duplicates by the thousands in every part of these United States where ignorance leads people to live in tight, closed rooms; for all the good air and sunlight in the world will not save the man who at night fills his lungs with the tainted atmosphere of a close sleeping apartment. But in any case the authorities should no more permit new tenants to move into an apartment which is presumably infected by the former occupancy of a consumptive than they should allow the inhabiting of a building which is obviously on the verge of collapse, or the entrance of an audience into a theatre without fire escapes.—Samuel Hopkins Adams, M. D., in McClure's Magazine.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—I happened to come across a Socialist paper: I read the thing. Do you know that I find there is much good in Socialism?

UNCLE SAM—You don't say so!

B. J.—Yes; there are many good points in it. For instance, the nationalization of the railroads. That should be the first step.

U. S. (meditative)—The "first step"? Hem! "First step." Do you mean the first, very first step?

B. J.—Yes; that's just what I mean; this individualistic way of doing things has run its course; the railroads are just the thing the society should begin with as first step.

U. S.—Do you see that building?

B. J.—Yes; that's the Post Office.

U. S.—Is it run individualistically?

B. J.—No; it is run by the nation.

U. S.—The business of letter delivering was not always run collectively, as now, was it?

B. J.—No; wasn't it originally a private undertaking?

U. S.—So it was. Originally run individualistically; now it is run collectively. Accordingly, nationalization of the railroad now would not be the "first step" taken by society.

B. J.—Well, no; the nationalization of the mail business was done first.

U. S.—And how about the employes of the Post Office? Are they a happy, free lot of people?

B. J. (reflectively, with a distant look)—N-n-o; they surely are not happy; they surely are not free.

U. S.—Guess they are not. Look at the letter carriers; they who do the work, are kept down with low wages, are subjected to all manners of petty vexations, and their tenure, despite the civil service regulations, is quite precarious; look at the girls who work in the mail-bag department, mending the bags; it is a regular sweat-shop affair, to say nothing of the mean, petty tricks the poor girls are subjected to. You know all that, don't you?

B. J.—Yes, I do; it is a burning shame, too!

U. S.—And I have only mentioned one half of the burning shame. You know, don't you, that little bills for the improvement of the conditions of these employes are either promptly pigeonholed, or are bandied like a football from one chamber of Congress to the other, and allowed to drop dead in the end, while all bills providing larger pay to the railroad companies for carrying the mails go through "with promptness and precision"; don't you know that too?

B. J.—'Course I do. And I know also that the claims of these railroads are fraudulent, to the knowledge of Congress.

U. S.—Right you are. Now, doesn't the experience with that Post Office prove that there is no help in nationalization?

B. J. contemplates the ground.

U. S.—Now, this is the point: Nationalization is not of itself a step toward Socialism. Nationalization IS, only when it redounds to the interest of the working class. Such nationalization nationalizes; the other don't. The nationalization that is done and superintended by the capitalist class, does good only to the capitalist class. Capitalist society is like a barrel leaking from a thousand holes, each hole being a capitalist-run concern; stop ONE hole and there will be just so much water to run through the remaining holes. There is no nationalization worth the name, or worth straining for, except that one that, knowing of all the holes, has a program whereby all the holes are to be stopped.

B. J.—But one thing will have to be done at a time.

U. S.—Not at all! No ONE thing will ever be feasible until the working class is sufficiently informed, united, to undertake ALL things. At the same time the workers in ONE trade will nationalize the trade in their charge, the workers in other trades can nationalize the other trades. To do this, the working class must have learned the true meaning of solidarity, and hence, among other reasons, the Industrial Union is a social-political necessity. The only ONE first step, that is a step, is the revolutionary education of the workers. The S. L. P. and the industrial unionists are attending to that.

The People
New York

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

BROOKLYN PITCHES IN FOR OPERATING FUND.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At the general party meeting of Section Kings County, held on Sunday, March 14, the matter of the Operating Fund of The People was discussed, and it was decided that a committee be appointed consisting of the undersigned and one from each Branch to solicit donations to the Operating Fund from members and sympathizers. The result at the above meeting was $6.50, which we send you. The work will be carried into the Branches.

J. Hall.

Brooklyn, N. Y., March 15.

THE WAY TO HELP.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed please find $1 for the Operating Fund. Though you have already received three dollars from me this year as a sympathizer, I will endeavor to give a dollar as often as possible. I make a statement of the three, for the benefit of many, who could also sacrifice a few cigars for the sake of doing something for The People.

A Sympathizer.

New York, March 13.

TRAUTMANIANA AND OTHER I-AM-A-BUMIANA IN PATERSON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Grand Jury did not indict the Trautmanites who, led by Frank Bohn of New York, on midnight of December 22 of last year, broke in the I. W. W. Hall and took the furniture and other property.

One F. Koetgen brought counter charges against R. Katz for "false arrest and perjury," and Katz was placed under $100 bail by Justice of the Peace Cocker. The Grand Jury threw this case out also.

The I. W. W. brought civil action for the recovery of its property, which in the meantime is in safe keeping, before the District Court and time and again the defendants had the trial postponed upon the plea that the defendant proper and chief witness, Frank Bohn, was in New England, and could not appear for trial. The trial was finally set for to-day, but again we were informed by our attorney that Frank Bohn had sent a sworn affidavit that he could not appear on that date, the trial has again been postponed.

The general opinion among the members in Paterson is that the "chief witness" will never appear, for obvious reasons.

Trautman was recently here and large posters were distributed inviting all workingmen who did not want to work more than eight hours to come to a meeting where he was to speak. Some did come to the meeting and stayed until the collection was announced, then they left the hall and poor Trautman's illusions about getting money in Paterson vanished.

Promissory notes for about $175, given by Trautman, are in possession of the I. W. W. organization here, but are worthless now, of course.

Apropos of the letter published in The People by Mrs. Oscar Neebe of Chicago, in regards to Mr. Heslewood—

When Heslewood was to leave for Stuttgart as a delegate of the I. W. W. to the International Congress, Trautman's emissary, E. Fisher, had to come to Paterson to raise the money. Comrade F. W. Ball advanced the bulk of the sum that Heslewood needed. Bail was paid back, but not by Trautman. The Financial Secretary-Treasurer, J. C. Butterworth, of the Paterson District Council, paid Ball and sent Trautman the receipts in payment of per capita, also a loan which Heslewood borrowed from Ball while at Stuttgart. (This was also a rub down). Now Trautman writes in the Industrial Bulletin that a strike took place in "P. Ball's mill" in this city, and that "P. Ball is treasurer of the S. L. P." This is a lie. Comrade F. W. Ball is not the manufacturer P. Ball, which Trautman knows. Trautman also writes that "Papa Glanz remained at work." Fact is that it was the ribbon weavers in P. Ball's and who were unorganized, that went out on strike.

Glanz worked at broad silk weaving in a different department, and the strikers insisted on settling their difficulties themselves without seeking or desiring the intervention of the I. W. W. in any way. It also must be stated that with the imperfect organization of the I. W. W., which we had here, it was at no time possible to carry out the real industrial strike. There never were all departments organized.

Trautmann—take note—also spoke, like Heslewood in Kalispell, as I see by to-day's Daily People, before the S. P. Club in this city at their hall, but he had only the empty chairs to speak to.

R. Katz.

Paterson, N. J., March 16.

WEEKLY PEOPLE SETS HIM STRAIGHT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have been wearing an S. P. button which I have decided to discard for an S. L. P. one, having recently discovered that the S. P. one is not an emblem of the true revolutionary movement, the evidence of which is very clearly shown in the Weekly People, which I have been reading of late.

Howard Bramhall.

No. Woburn, Mass., March 14.

AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY IN EL PASO.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—A heavy snow-fall, one of the heaviest in years, brought with it for the first time in the history of El Paso, Tex., an unknown quantity (more or less). This unknown quantity, Emma Goldman, "the Woman with a Message," as B. Reitman announced, lectured at the El Paso Theatre, March 12; subject, "Why I Am an Anarchist." Very few workingmen graced the small audience, perhaps directly attributable to the fact that they were not in a position to spend the 25 or 50 cents admission.

Of course, Miss Emma told the audience she believes not in government, and that the Socialists, her "step-comrades," do. But did Miss E. tell in what **kind** of government the Socialists believe? No. Clarification of that utterance was left for mountain winds to whisper.

She opened up with a cursory account of existing evils (true enough); the cause thereof (ditto), and, alas, how sadly mistaken the ignorant people are of her true "belief," inundating herself in her own enthusiasm. Everything said of her by others, outside of her cult, is not true, and should be "bundled into the rag-bag of things that were." The only salvation in sight, according to the purblind E. G., is anarchy; that heaven on earth would come to pass (not stay?) only after a campaign of education, and the foundation of industrial unions, and, when all is in readiness, by calling a world-wide strike. But did she hint that such a union had already been launched and invaded by an impure element endangering the attainment of the ultimate aim? No! Why initiate the audience to such lengths?

Questions were not solicited on the part of the speaker, neither did the audience demand a hearing. Let us hope that she may not expire some day from an attack of self-complacency.

Germs cannot thrive in this city, so what chance is there for the anarchistic germ?

The mountain wind sighed all night long and to-day,—the air is, oh, so pure again.

Adios Senorita Goldman!

"Step Comrade."

El Paso, Tex., March 13.

THE USES OF FISH.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Fish is a brain food. The proper day to eat it is Friday. It results in a beautiful thirst Saturday (pay day), which is not inimical to the interest of either the breweries or the police. By reflex action it creates a desire for spiritual consolation Sunday, which leaves the worker with a contrite heart Monday—confident that Free Thought is a fallacy and Socialism only possible in Heaven.

F. Rivers.

Saulsbury, Tenn., March 9.

DENVER S. P. LIES DOWN TO THE S. L. P.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Denver, Socialist Labor Party, on February 9, decided to challenge the Socialist party organizations in this city to debate the following question: "Resolved, That the Socialist party with its present principles, tactics and lack of discipline, cannot emancipate the working class." A committee of the Section presented the challenge at the meeting of the Central Committee of the S. P. Local and of the Third Ward Branch and both bodies acted as we had anticipated: laid our challenge on the table, preventing any discussion on the matter. As the S. P. Local proper only meets when they happen to have a quorum, we did not get a chance to challenge it. But the result would have been the same.

Having failed to get a debate, Section Denver arranged for a public meeting to discuss the subject contained in the challenge. We advertised the meeting for March 7, and although a blizzard was raging all day, keeping many people at home, the meeting was a success. The audience was not large but it appeared to be entirely with our speaker, with the exception of a few members of the Third Ward Branch of the S. P. and a couple of physical force freaks. Ben Hurwitz, who spoke, showed the difference between the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist party and proved the utter impossibility of the Socialist party being able to emancipate the working class, as it keeps the workers divided on the industrial field in its mad desire for votes.

The Third Ward Branch of the Socialist party is supposed to be composed of revolutionists, the working class element, and radical wing of the party in this city, but I am sorry to say it is the queerest bunch of freaks I have ever been unfortunate enough to run across. They claim to be in favor of Industrial Unionism, but when cornered they admit that they recognize the Chicago bunch of anarchists as being the I. W. W. So we are confronted with the sight of a branch of a pure and simple political party endorsing a bunch of pure and simple physical forcists. Well, that's consistent pure and simpledom.

A member of this same branch, who is now acting as State organizer of the party, not long ago debated with comrade Hurwitz, the subject for debate being that the conditions of the working class are improving and will continue to improve under capitalism.

And so the great work of the Socialist party, misinforming the workers, sidetracking them from the real issues and keeping our class divided, is going on, while the Socialist Labor Party, few as we are, have to fight those charlatans besides the capitalist class.

Section Denver is now contemplating the renting of a permanent headquarters where we can have regular educational as well as business meetings.

The two local unions of the I. W. W. in this city are both holding regular meetings and are getting in fine shape for some active organization work.

The two or three physical forcists in Denver are keeping quiet, as is proper for supporters of a wreck to do.

Geo. Anderson.

Denver, Colo., March 8, 1909.

THE EXTENT OF THE PEOPLE'S TEACHINGS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—If the Daily People had all the subscribers it has readers it would be very easy sailing as regards the financial side of the enterprise. For, be it known that The People's influence extends further than to its subscribers. The People circulates and is quoted as authority in places where our comrades little imagine. It is well known what an attitude the Roman Catholic Church maintains toward Socialism, and it might seem strange that The Daily People should ever find its way into a Catholic sanctum, much less to have it quoted as an authority. Yet such is the case, as may be seen by the enclosed article, taken from the "Ohio Waisenfreund" of March 10, a German Catholic weekly, published in Columbus, O.

F. F.

Hartford, Conn., March 15.

(Enclosure.)

Prohibition Renders Pioneer Work for Socialism.

That Prohibition is a roadmaker for Socialism, we may be fully convinced. The procedure to expropriate the brewers and saloonkeepers is utterly unconstitutional and even clashes with the law of nature, and it is an instance from which Socialism may and surely will draw its entirely correct logical conclusion.

The expropriated brewers, distillers, etc., who have been robbed of their property, without recompense and without due process of law, protest with reason from the standpoint of present economic, i. e., capitalist conceptions, against this expropriation.

The organ of the Socialist Labor Party, Daily People, New York, (February 9)), draws its Socialist consequences from the reckless procedure of the Prohibitionists.

"'Property is destroyed,' say the brewers and saloonkeepers, 'and millions of property are rendered valueless.' These are the identical charges that Capital prefers against Socialism. Prohibition answers calmly, coolly, deliberately, unconcernedly, even in spirited strains: 'We care not! Your property, your houses, your millions are used against the public interest. As such you are a nuisance and must go!'

"Well answered," remarked the Socialist organ. "Prohibition thereby is mightily pushing forward a Socialist principle that Socialism has nailed to its masthead, 'Life is more precious than property.'

"Let the public ear only get accustomed to the theory now advanced by Prohibitionism and nine-tenths of the objections against Socialism will have been abandoned and abolished. It matters not how large investments may be. If they work injury to the commonwealth—away with them. Prohibitionism is familiarizing the public ear with a sound revolutionary principle. Who would have thought it!"

Has not in foreign countries the same principle been applied to rich cloisters, chapters and ecclesiastical educational institutions? And you are a public injury and therefore you must be abolished? When the last consequences are drawn of Prohibition with its conjunction of expropriation, we Catholics may experience wonderful things in our free country.

ENTERPRISING JOURNALISM.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Do you notice how the New York Call has become shaky on the weather since the elements on March 4 went back upon the Call's famous "beat"? On that occasion the paper's special correspondent at Washington had a glowing description of the gorgeous decorations at the inauguration ceremonies, whereas, the fact was that the Capitol's streets were soaked with slush, and the bunting hung bedraggled in the desolating storm.

Yesterday, there being a St. Patrick's Day parade to be pulled off, and the day opening with ideal weather, the Call was not so certain but what the elements had treachery in store for its "enterprising," "journalistic" genius. So, with its "enterprise," which consists in writing up things before they happen, the Call tried another tack. This time, in its "night edition," its last edition yesterday, it announced:

"PARADE THREATENED."

"Uncertainty of Weather May Interfere With St. Patrick's Procession."

But Old Sol smiled pleasantly all day, and the "Call" was stung again.

E. S.

New York, March 18.

PARTY ACTIVITY IN DETROIT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The course of lectures arranged by Section Detroit is effective in spreading systematized knowledge in ever larger and larger circles of the working class. The next lecture takes place on March 28, in the same hall. "Municipal Ownership" is the subject, which is very opportune, as the city is very much agitated by the effort of both old political parties to settle the street car question in Detroit.

On Sunday, March 21, the annual Commune Commemoration takes place at 75 Gratiot avenue. A program appropriate for the occasion is arranged, and all comrades, friends and readers of The People are urged to be present. To all workers, this historical event in the struggles of the working class carries a lesson which they can ill afford to ignore.

To combine the social needs with the other requirements of a political organization of labor, Section Detroit has arranged a spring festival and bazaar for Saturday evening, April 10, in Gitschlay's Hall, 820 Gratiot avenue. All are invited to avail themselves of the opportunity to aid the movement financially, as well as to have a few hours of congenial society. All presents for the bazaar are received or collected by F. Hitchcock, Hamtramck, Mich. Tickets in advance, 15 cents, can be had from all members.

We must always remember that the working class itself must strike the blow that will free it from wage slavery. The greatness of the Socialist movement consists in doing well the small things. There is a place for every one. Let everyone be up and doing.

H. R.

Hamtramck, Mich., March 11.

THE "REWARD" OF LABOR.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On Second street, in this city of Los Angeles, an old man 70 years of age, limps along on crutches. He wears a blue railroad uniform and cap to match, which is surmounted with "golden" letters reading "Oldest Railroad Employe" C. & P. R. Rd., (Chicago & Paducah now the Wabash Railroad). I asked him how long he had slaved for the railroads and he said thirty years. Now he has to sell lead pencils while in poor health and crippled. That's the "reward" he receives after losing his health by years of hard work, and by "energy," "persistence," "push," risk, "loyalty" and so forth.

S. A. J. Stodel.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 5.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

T. E., NEW YORK—For what reason should the Socialist Labor Party take any notice of the Socialist party's proposition to have the S. L. P. dropped from the International Bureau? The People, a month or more ago, referred to the humor of the move, in that it proceeded from the S. P. National Committeeman of Iowa, a State where the S. P. vote lost about 50 per cent. of its total. Silliness is best left alone. If the German Social Democrat, traveling in America, who recently wrote to one of the Labor papers abroad that the "dumm und fresch" (dull and fresh) German immigrants are the ones who speedily figure in America as "prominent,"—if he were acquainted with wider layers of our "prominencies," he would discover that the "dumm und fresch" are not limited to any one nationality.

W. A. S., SYDNEY, N. S. W.—It would have been folly for the I. W. W. membership to recognize the officers elected by the packed convention of Anarchists. The Anarchists were ousted by the votes. The officers betrayed their trust and simply counted things to suit themselves. The legitimate representation of the Anarchists at the late convention was insignificant. Nothing but a slugging match would have steaded. Now they can slug and thieve among themselves.

Next question next week.

F. J. B., REVERE, MASS.—Your article only proves the correctness of "The Traveler's" misleadingly defective presentation of facts. It thereby plays into the hands of the false bourgeois claim that under Socialism things would be little better "because there is not wealth enough to go around." What does it matter if one employer scooped in $100,000, whereas his 1,000 wage earners only received $500 each? These are false statistics. If this were so, then an equal distribution among all the employes and the employer, who would then be working, would allow to each only $99 more—a trifle not worth a revolution. You tripped where no reader of The People has any business to trip—in accepting as true the figure that the capitalist admits he pockets. The People has scores of times proved that such figures are false. They represent only a portion of the plunder pocketed by the capitalist class. The other portions they conceal under the guise of rent, of interest on "loans," etc., etc., etc., etc.—all of which is paid to themselves. These items being added together, the share of the worker is barely one-half his product—and that, further analyzed, leaves him about one-fifth.

"X. Y. Z.," ERIE, PA.—First—The People has often warned its correspondents that its personnel is too limited to furnish personal answers.

Second—Dismiss the idea that a point can be treated so scientifically "as to make contradiction impossible." Remember there are people who contradict evolution.

Third—A feature of that which marks the class character of a ruling class—land in feudality, capital in bourgeois society—is that such property guides throughout and keeps the respective ruling class instinctively with its nose to the wind. Thus the protection of their interests by the capitalists is an instinctive class act. The capitalist does not, originally, protect his interests because he is class conscious, he does so obedient to the instinct imparted to him by that which makes him a capitalist—capital. Effect ever re-acts back upon cause. The final consequence is the cultivated, hence deliberate exercise of the class instinct. Thus the capitalist becomes class-conscious. The real importance of this inquiry lies in the contrast presented between capitalist and proletaire. The former starts ballasted: his property directs and cultivates his class conduct. The proletaire, on the contrary, is unballasted: it is lack of property, with its consequence of wage slavery, that determines his class interests. Starting unballasted in his pockets, he has to supply the ballast in his mind. Hence the peculiar dangers that beset the Labor Movement.

Next question next week.

R. L., YONKERS, N. Y.—The passage in the Sue story, now running through the Daily People is perfectly correct. A man whose eyes have been put out can weep, and copiously, too. The putting out of a man's eyes does not necessarily destroy his lachrymal glands. On the other hand, a man may have both his eyes, and yet his lachrymal glands may be out of commission. It will be a cold day for Sue's critics when they catch him in a blunder.

I. A. A., SALT LAKE, UTAH—Sentiment is valuable. It is inestimable. But it is no better than powder in a gun-barrel without bullet. We need, indeed, the powder of sentiment. Without, however, the bullet of sound knowledge of facts, the shot is a flash in the pan. Facts without sentiment, are inert bullets without the propelling force of powder. Sentiment, without sound facts, is powder only, making noise, and hitting nothing, good only for explosion.

D. B. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to the seventh question—

Whether a man has a right to his life regardless of the consent of others is a question that probably implies a "natural right." As to that, the answer given a correspondent last week may here be repeated:—No "right" is enjoyed until conquered. no "right" is conquered until a clear perception is obtained thereof; finally, no clear conception is ever obtained of a "right" striven after until economic conditions have shifted so as to shape the conception.—The experience of the human race—shipwrecked mariners who become cannibals; infanticide, among the rich under certain conditions, among the poor under others; etc., etc., etc.,—proves the question has no practical significance. See answer immediately above. It dovetails into this.

Last question next week.

F. L., CHICAGO, ILL.—Now to the second question—

On feudalism, read the Eugene Sue stories on the "History of a Proletarian Family," from the 6th story to the 9th, and then the 11th, 12th and 14th. The one in between, the 10th, is now going through the press. All the others are already out in book form. They, from the 9th to the 14th (leaving out the 13th), which covers another feature of history, furnish the best available narrative of the inception and development of feudalism.

Next question next time.

F. E. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to the fourth and last question—

The immediate form of the system that is to supplant the existing one is the Republic of Labor, or Socialist Commonwealth—a social system in which the political State, having no further function to perform, is cast off, and society enters upon the stage of the co-operative system, which it tasted in its infancy, and had temporarily to discard in order to fashion the means and methods of production requisite to render production abundant for all without arduous toil.

K. A. H., NEW YORK—The paragraph in the Daily People of the 13th of this month (Weekly the 20th) on the election of the new Secretary of the French Syndicalists answers most of your questions. For the rest, the numerical strength of the French Syndicalists must be about 75,000 members. The organization tends towards the industrial system, announces the purpose of so shaping itself but is that not yet. As you will have learned from the paragraph referred to, the Anarchistic Secretary Griffhuelles was removed, etc.

H. J. S., LOS ANGELES, CAL.—It would be a mistake, violating the sense of proportion, for the national organ of a Movement to attune its policy to the exceptional conditions that may prevail in some exceptional locality. Such conditions must not be ignored. That is true. The way to have them taken cognizance of is by special correspondence, which, being published in the national organ, would, without violating the sense of right proportion and thereby conveying a wrong impression of the whole, weave themselves into the whole, as considered from the national or general viewpoint. Such special correspondence would have to come from persons located in such exceptional locality, and upon whose alertness, general information furnished by the national organ, and determination really devolves the task of meeting on the spot the exceptional conditions that may face them on any particular subject of general interest. The People furnishes illustrations of this on numerous subjects.

N. M. H., JERSEY CITY, N. J.—What is wanted is experience on prices made in households, and furnished by these.

J. T. W., SEATTLE, WASH.; K. S. H., OGDEN, WASH.; R. C., SPOKANE, WASH.; F. C. R., SAULSBURY, TENN.; E. J. M., DULUTH, MINN.; J. G. S., BUCKLEY, WASH.; O. C., BERLIN, GERMANY; C. C. C., PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.; M. D. F., ATLANTIC CITY, N. Y.; F. F., HARTFORD, CONN.; H. L., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.; F. P. J., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.; E. G. F., SEATTLE, WASH.—Matter received.

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28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, Philip Courtenay,
144 Duchess Ave., London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

A regular meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held at National Headquarters on Wednesday evening, March 10, with A. C. Kihn in the chair. Members present: Deutsch, Hammer, Hanlon, Kihn, Malmberg and Rosenberg. Members absent and excused: Lafferty and Schwartz. Members absent without excuse: Ball, Butterworth, Gollerstepper, Hall, Lechner and Schrafft.

Minutes of the previous session read and received.

Financial report for two weeks ending March 9: receipts, $25.61; expenditures, $39.15.

The Manager of the Daily People attended the session and complained of lack of co-operation on the part of the Sections in the settlement of accounts overdue; also complained that the "Arbetaren's" indebtedness kept on the increase, and that some action must be taken inasmuch as pressing claims must be immediately met. It was moved by Deutsch and seconded by Hammer, that the national secretary be instructed to call upon the Executive Board of the Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation in Boston, personally, in order to urge the immediate payment of their indebtedness to the Daily People. Carried unanimously.

The committee elected to consider the proposal of Section Tacoma, Wash., to publish a bound volume of Daily People editorials and articles reported that, desirable as it may be, the work cannot be undertaken at this time because it would entail too great an expenditure of cash without any great immediate returns.

Correspondence: From G. Renner, Jacksonville, Ill., regarding activity of Gillhaus. From A. Gillhaus, Peoria, Ill., reply to Renner's communication. From Section Plainfield, N. J., financial report for the last six months. From D. D. Barrett, Terre Haute, Ind., reporting activity in behalf of the Party in that locality, and his resignation from the S. P. From Section Bridgeport, Conn., regarding Unity Conference in Bridgeport. From Albert Wernett, Denver, Colo., approving Section Tacoma's proposition of bound volume of editorials, etc. From Section Antonio, Tex., inquiring whether soldiers may be admitted into the Party; national secretary replied "that while there is no constitutional provision against it, still there is an unwritten law that denies soldiers and militiamen admission into the Party. In countries where the workers are FORCED into military service the status of such applicant takes on a different color, but here where service is purely voluntary it is different." From Ray J. Horton, Reno, Nev., regarding prospect of organization in that locality. From Oscar Kinsalns, Malden, Mass., regarding prospect of organization in that locality. From Holger Schmalfuss, Pittsfield, Mass., requesting names and addresses of speakers for Commune Festival, which is to be held jointly by the S. L. P. and S. P. in Pittsfield on the 28th inst.; referred to the Massachusetts S. E. C. From Massachusetts S. E. C. regarding speakers for Pittsfield, and organization in Malden. From Colorado S. E. C., sending monthly financial report, and reporting the arrangement of mass meeting in Denver to discuss the S. P. and its principles and tactics, also reporting that Chas. Trainor, member of the G. E. B. of the I. W. W. had joined the Section. From Section Richmond, Va., and Virginia S. E. C. regarding Party matters. From Section Manchester, N. H., regarding Party matters.

Adjournment 11:15 P. M.

Max Rosenberg, Secretary.

BUFFALO LABOR LYCEUM LECTURES.

The following public lectures by Socialists and non-Socialists will be held under the auspices of the Labor Lyceum of Section Erie County, S. L. P., every Sunday afternoon, 3 o'clock, at Florence Parlors, 527 Main street. An instructive general discussion follows each lecture. All readers of this paper are invited to attend and bring friends. Admission is free.

Schedule:

March 28—Attorney Wm. J. Shields. Subject to be announced.

April 4—Willard C. Vincent on "How Shall the Working Class Organize?"

April 11.—Mr. Frederick Almy, of the Charity Organization Society, on "Some Problems of Socialism."

April 18.—Leander A. Armstrong, on "Social and Political Evolution of Man."

April 25.—Attorney Lewis Stockton, on "Should Socialists Demand the City Charter Proposed by the Referendum League."

May 2.—Boris Reinstein, on "International May Day and American Labor Day."

BOSTON, ATTENTION!

A Concert and Dance will be given by the Socialist Labor Press Committee of Greater Boston, representing Section Boston, Scandinavian Socialist Clubs, and the Lettish Socialist Labor Federation. Proceeds go for the Operating Fund of the Daily and Weekly People. The benefit will be held on THURSDAY evening, April 8, in Knights of Honor Hall, 730 Washington street, near Kneeland street, Boston. Tickets, twenty-five cents.

ATTENTION HARTFORD, CONN.

A public meeting will be held SUNDAY, March 28, 1909, 3 P. M., at S. L. P. Hall, 34 Elm street, Hartford. Joseph Schlossberg of New York will discuss "Immigration." Admission free. All are welcome.

Organizer.

ATTENTION PHILADELPHIA!

Daniel De Leon of New York, editor of the Daily People, will deliver a lecture on SUNDAY, April 11, at 2 P. M., in the German Theatre, corner Franklin street and Girard avenue, Philadelphia, on "The Fundamental Principles of International Socialism and the Two Socialist Parties in America." Readers of The People and Party sympathizers are requested to make this known to their friends. The admission will be ten cents for any seat in the house. Come early and secure good seats. Doors open at 1:30 P. M.

BIG MAY DAY CELEBRATION AT COOPER UNION, N. Y.

International Labor Day will this year find the Socialist Labor Party celebrating its clear-cut record of the past and proclaiming its antagonism to capitalism and to the insidious foes of Labor. These are stirring times and the Socialist Labor Party is called upon to be in the forefront of the battle. The Party therefore calls upon its staunch army of loyal supporters to help point out to the American working class the clear road to their emancipation.

May 1 will see Labor assembled throughout the world to let all who care know that the banner of revolt has been raised against the tyranny and oppression of capitalism, and to demand the Industrial Republic for the great army of the world's workers.

Rally, comrades and sympathizers, and join with us in the celebration of International Labor Day at Cooper Union Hall, Eighth street and Third avenue, SATURDAY, May 1, at 8 P. M., for the purpose of instilling in the minds of the workers the fact that the present economic system must go if they desire to be free, if they desire their rights, if they desire the full product of their labor. With a view to widely advertising our May Day meeting, comrades should secure a supply of throwaways for distribution from L. Abelson, 28 City Hall Place and attend the meeting en masse and play your full part in celebrating the worker's International Labor Day.

It will be good news to know that our old stalwart, Chas. H. Corregan of Syracuse, N. Y., will positively be one of the speakers. Daniel De Leon and Jas. T. Hunter will also speak. Other speakers will be announced later.

Remember Labor's Day! Remember you are a Socialist! Do your duty!

N. Y. County Executive Committee, S. L. P.

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y., NOTICE!

The members of the Socialist Labor Party of Section Monroe County, N. Y., are requested to attend a party meeting on THURSDAY, March 25, 8 p. m., at 42 Exchange street, Smith and Leadwich Hall, Rochester. Readers of The People are also asked to attend this meeting.

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HEARTY RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR FUNDS.

If the donations continue to keep coming as well as they did recently it won't take long to make the total of $500 that our present pressing needs require.

The comrades of Pittsburg and vicinity remit $24, and write that they recognize the prime importance of keeping the Party Press in the field of propaganda. In fact all the remitters have something cheering to say in addition to sending the financial proof that their words are not empty phrases.

Comrade Eisenberg says that "prosperity" has struck Taft's home town, for three of the Section members have found jobs and can send something to help the Party Press.

H. Mahland, New York	5.00
C. Vonderlieth, "	5.00
E. Moonelis, "	2.00
30th and 32d A.D. "	2.00
Thos. Blank "	1.00
A. Gollerstepper "	1.00
H. A. Okle, San Jose, Cal.	1.00
G. Dibb, New Bethlehem, Pa.	1.00
O. Ruckser, West Haven, Ct.	1.00
J. Schwenck, Jersey City, N.J.	.74
Ben Duff, Chrome, N.J.	.50
A. Levine, N. Y. gas rebate	4.00
Louis Katz, New York	1.00
G. Langer, Milford, Conn.	1.00
G. Anderson, Denver, Colo.	1.00
C. E. Nylen, New York	1.00
F. Linden, Providence, R. I.	1.00
T. Grabuski, Lansing, Mich.	.25
Section Allentown, Pa.	$15.00
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B. D. Downey, Portsmouth, Va	1.00
G. J. Deans, Portsmouth, Va.	1.00
C. F. Munro, Portsmouth, Va.	1.00
D. L. Munro, Portsmouth, Va.	1.00
L. D. Bechtel, Los Angeles, Cal	1.00
F. Adams, Los Angeles, Cal.	1.00
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal.	.50
A. Louwet, Walkerville, Ont.	1.00
H. Kloker, Walkerville, Ont.	.50
F. Machauer, New York	2.00
M. A. Goltz, Winona, Minn.	2.00
S. B. Cowles, Sand Lake, Mich.	2.00
M. Jasinovsky, Phila, Pa.	1.00
"Wine Punch," Jersey City	.25
S. M., New York	$5.00
B. Touroff, New York	5.00
A. Safford, Guilford, Me.	1.00
Section Duluth Minn.	1.25
G. Willrich, Denver, Colo.	1.00
C. W. House, Denver, Colo.	.50
J. Mann, Chicago, Ill.	.65
F. Werdenberg, New York	.50
Section Passaic Co., N. J.	1.40
James Hayes, Leom'nst'r, Mass.	1.00
H. Richter, Hamtramck, Mich.	5.00
Geo. Hasseler, Detroit, Mich.	5.00
Wm. Hoag, " "	2.00
F. Hitchcock, " "	1.00
H. Kreft, " "	1.00
J. Wendt, " "	.50
A. Fabinski, " "	1.00
Dennis Carney, Branchp't, NY	1.00
Julius Hammer, New York	$3.00
4th and 10th A. D., Brooklyn	1.00
J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz.	10.00
T. J. Miles, Phoenix, Ariz.	5.00
R. Clausen, Spokane, Wash.	10.00
A. C. Wirtz, Barstow, Cal.	2.00
Slave 204, San Francisco, Cal.	1.50
F. C. Salzer, Fort Collins, Col.	2.00
C. Sistek, Monessen, Pa.	.50
I. W. W. Local, Braddock, Pa.	14.00
H. Mueller, Wilkinsburg, Pa.	3.00
F. Weber, Wilkinsburg, Pa.	1.00
S. L. P. Branch, Wilkinsb'g, Pa.	1.00
F. Kunz, Swissvale, Pa.	1.00
F. Rogler, McKeesport, Pa.	1.00
E. Schmid, Pittsburg, Pa.	1.00
F. O. Henzie, Pittsburg, Pa.	.50
Dr. Arn, Pittsburg, Pa.	.50
T. C. Daly, E. Pittsburg, Pa.	.50
T. A. Gray, Wilkinsburg, Pa.	.50
D. L. Barnett, Spokane, Wash.	5.00
G. McDonald, Spokane, Wash.	4.00
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D S Law, C'nt'r Barnstead N H	.60
Sympathizer, Astoria, L. I.	1.00
Peter Faber, Kent, O.	1.00
Mr. Grob, New York	1.00
C. Vollmers, Brooklyn, N. Y.	.25
A. Anderson, Brooklyn, N. Y.	.50
O. H., Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.00
J. Hall, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.00
Total	185.44
Previously acknowledged	3,719.66
Grand total	$3,905.10

The Weekly People at one dollar a year is excellent value for those who would learn about Socialism and the Socialist movement. Interest your friends and get them to subscribe.

IT CANNOT BE SHIFTED

THE WORK OF PROPAGANDA RESTS UPON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ADHERENTS OF THE MOVEMENT.

While we are open to suggestions that will increase the circulation of the Party press, we must, however, remind our comrades and friends that we have yet to hear of a plan by which the circulation can be increased without effort on their part.

Getting subscribers for a Socialist paper is not just like selling merchandise, as some seem to think. It doesn't follow that a man who can sell packing house products will be successful with a Socialist paper. It is true that such a one may get small business men to subscribe, by promising them that patronage will follow, but he cannot get the proletariat to subscribe.

The methods of the "successful salesman" fail when he tackles that field, and for the very good reason, that though he may be a very good salesman, he is not equipped for the work of Socialist propaganda. The subscription getter is really engaged in the work of propaganda. Salesmen may be hired, but propagandists are the product of the Movement.

During the past week we cut off more subscribers than we put on. This, too, in places where the Party has organization. As all the Sections have copies of the mail list, showing when subscriptions expire, the fact that there are not more renewals indicates that not enough attention is paid to the keeping up of the list of readers which we already have.

Many workingmen who are not familiar with the methods of subscribing, the getting of money orders, etc., drop off, when they might easily be retained as readers if looked after by Party members. If you can't increase your list hold what you have at all events.

The Active Brigade were heard from as follows:

W. Goss, Belleville, Ill.	7
A. Louwet, Walkerville, Ont.	4
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal.	7
F. Brown, Cleveland, O.	6
R. Strach, San Antonio, Tex.	3
C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y.	3
Section Denver, Colo.	4
W. Suessbrich, Rockville, Conn.	4
G. M. Sterry, Providence, R. I	2
M. Kelley, Providence, R. I.	2
E. Smith, Roanoke, Va.	2
J Burkhardt, Indianapolis, Ind.	2
T. C. Pope, Pecos, Texas	2
W. J. Gerry, Colo. Springs, Col.	2
F. Bombach, Boston	2
J. Lutkenhaus, New York	2
E. Teichert, S. Greensburg, Pa.	2
M Stodel, New Haven, Conn.	2
Socialist, Edinburgh, Scotland	3

Prepaid cards sold: Buffalo, N. Y., $11.22; Newport News, Va., $5.00; San Antonio, Tex., $5.00; Brookline, Mass., $3.00; 22nd and 24th A. D.'s, New York, $1.25; Belleville, Ill., 50c.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

Business in this department keeps fair. The more important sales were:

Cleveland, O.	$30.00
Pittsburg, Pa.	13.60
Brooklyn, N. Y.	20.40
Chicago, Ill.	7.65
Boston, Mass.	7.00
Tacoma, Wash.	19.45
Jersey City, N. J.	6.75
Edinburgh, Scotland	7.05
August Gillhaus	5.80
Detroit, Mich.	2.00
Attleboro, Mass.	4.75
Hartford, Conn.	2.00
Utica, N. Y.	1.25
Nyack, N. Y.	1.90
Anaconda, Mont.	1.50
Lawrence, Mass.	1.22
San Francisco, Cal.	1.10
Newburgh, N. Y.	1.00

In addition there were many smaller orders, and office sales totaled $25.31.

The weather should soon permit more active propaganda work, see that you have stock on hand.

SECTION DENVER UP AND DOING.

Section Denver Recently Sent Out the Following Spirited Call to Action to Members, Friends and Sympathizers.

Denver, Colo., March 10, 1909.

To the members and sympathizers of the Socialist Labor Party and readers of the Weekly People in Denver,

Comrades:

You are hereby invited to attend a special meeting of Section Denver, S. L. P., to be held next Tuesday evening, March 16, at Hall No. 36, in the Club Building, 1731 Arapahoe street, third floor, at which steps will be taken to put the Section in active working condition. Plans will be laid for agitation work, and consideration given to the possibility of engaging permanent headquarters, where regular educational, as well as business meetings can be held.

In view of the present conditions of the wage workers, recent developments in the labor movement and the results of the late elections, we urge you, whatever your past affiliations may have been, to join the Socialist Labor Party.

Our National Executive Committee in regular session assembled on January 4, adopted and caused to be published in the Daily and Weekly People, an Address to the Working Class, which we trust you have read. If you have not, copies of the same can be had at the meeting next Tuesday. The Address should be read by every one interested in Socialism, as in it the S. L. P. position is thoroughly explained and the present situation of the movement set forth.

We refer you to this "Address," and will not here discuss the reasons why you should be a member of the S. L. P. After reading the address your duty to the working class should be apparent to you. This is no time to let any consideration keep you out of the only bona fide revolutionary labor party, or to neglect your part of the work of educating and organizing the working class for our final emancipation.

Have you been a member of the S. L. P. before? Are you a sympathizer of the party? Have you recently become interested in the movement? Do you realize and recognize the position of the S. L. P. to be the correct one? If so, your place is with us and nothing should keep you from joining our ranks and assist in building up the organization here in Denver. Application blanks will be on hand and new members will be admitted at our meeting next Tuesday. Our monthly dues are twenty-five cents.

No amount of opposition or hardship has been able to down our organization. We are now building for the future. Deep on the bed rock of science and experience we are rearing a structure that no storm of private interest will ever affect. Are you going to remain inactive at this critical period in the history of the movement, when your assistance is most needed? Whether you will join or not, come to our meeting next Tuesday.

For Section Denver, S. L. P.

Geo. Anderson, Secretary.

CALL TO ACTION.

Issued by the California State Committee, Socialist Labor Party.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 5, 1909.

To the Comrades and Members-at-Large of the Socialist Labor Party in California, Greeting!

In January last the State Executive Committee issued an urgent call for donations toward defraying the expenses of the Gillhaus tour in California, Washington and Oregon. There has as yet been but little response. Now, comrades, do not delay in this most important matter; do not wait for the other comrade to start the ball a-rolling; do not wait for the last moment, but commence right now. This tour will be a most important step in the march of progress towards our emancipation from industrial and social slavery, organized as it is by the ever-uncompromising, undeterred S. L. P. While the reform and reactionary, bourgeois-tinted elements are still misleading the workers into the quagmire of confusion and futile, demoralizing tactics, the S. L. P., as hitherto, and more so now than ever before, must continue its unswerving course, and attend to the inspiring and necessary work it alone is organized to do, striking its hammer-blows upon the head of ignorance, wrong tactics and fakirism, awakening the workers in the shops and plants of industry, calling upon all who are honest and intelligent, to rise up and do their part towards overthrowing the Capitalist System and inaugurating the Socialist Republic.

Remember that the prime business in life for us is to hasten by word and action, and in every other way, the oncoming day of the collapse of Capitalism and of our economic emancipation. But this will not come automatically. It depends solely upon the revolutionary forces that are correctly and integrally organized; upon the men and women who know what they want and are determined to get it.

Bearing these truths in mind, heed the call that has been issued by your State Executive Committee, and respond at once and in the most liberal manner possible to the appeal for funds for the tour of Comrade Gillhaus in the Pacific States. We know that he can "deliver the goods," and that if you all enable him to have full opportunity in this matter, his work will not be in vain, but rather result in rallying the workers to the unsullied banner of that Party whose revolutionary watchword is "Unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class"—the Socialist Labor Party.

Now is the time, this is the year, to do something for the Socialist Movement. We all cannot leave our work and proclaim the message of the Revolution. Nevertheless, we have our Party and men in it whom we can commission to attend to the spreading of our principles. Among these is Gillhaus, who is well equipped for the purpose. We, in the West, must do our part, our duty, towards spreading the correct principles of the Socialist Movement.

Comrades, rally all to the call.

For the California State Executive Committee.

Louis C. Haller, State Secretary.
317 E. 7th St., Los Angeles, Cal.

PETITION

TO ABROGATE THE RUSSIAN EXTRADITION TREATY.

[The below petition is issued by the Pouren Defence Conference, 99 Nassau street, Room 719, New York City, to whom it should be returned when full. It enlists the sympathy of all right-minded men.]

To the Senate of the United States:

The proceedings under the Extradition Treaty with Russia against Christian Rudowitz and Jan Janoff Pouren have amply demonstrated that this treaty endangers, if it does not entirely destroy, the safety of political refugees from the Czar's dominions.

Both these cases have revealed an embarrassing conflict of two standards of justice: Russian and American.

Contrary to the theory and practice of American jurisprudence, the accused were, in fact, compelled to furnish proof of their innocence.

Under the extradition law, no provision is made for bail; in consequence, Jan Janoff Pouren has been imprisoned for more than a year, pending the decision of his case.

In extradition cases the issue of fact is not submitted to the verdict of a jury. It is decided by an inferior federal official, sometimes a lay magistrate, who may not even be learned in the law.

Russia may base her demands upon documentary proof obtained in a preliminary examination, in which all safeguards of the rights of the accused are absent. The documentary proof submitted by the Russian government need not under the Russian laws be sworn to; such evidence would be incompetent in any criminal proceeding originating in our own territory.

The defence, on the other hand, must rely upon witnesses, who are compelled on cross-examination to answer questions that cannot honorably be answered, because to do so would mean to betray their comrades who are still within the reach of the Czar's police.

Thus the time-honored right of political asylum is reduced to a mockery.

In view of the foregoing, the undersigned petition the United States Senate to cause due notice of termination of the Convention for the extradition of criminals, made in 1893, to be given to the Imperial Government of Russia.

NAME	STREET NO.	CITY	STATE

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